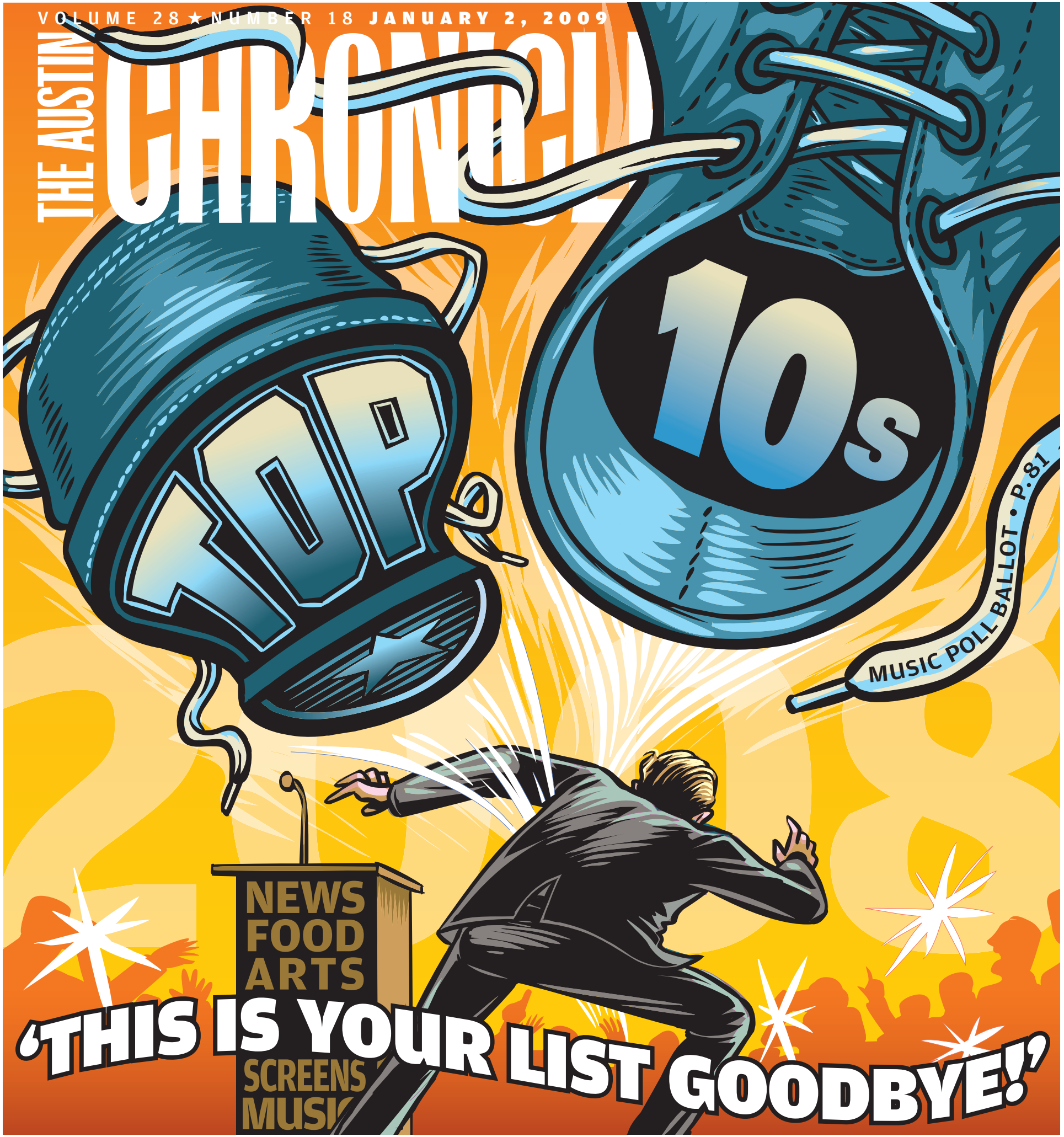
VOLUME 28 ★ NUMBER 18 JANUARY 2, 2009

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE



shoe, fly

SEE austinchronicle.com FOR BREAKING NEWS, DAILY LISTINGS, TEXAS HOUSE MYSTERIES, THE AGELESS MISS LAVELLE WHITE, AND JOHN PEEL HAD TOP 10s, TOO

contents

VOL. 28, NO. 18 ★ JANUARY 2, 2009

vote!

2008-2009 Music Poll Ballot, p.81



COVER ILLUSTRATION BY JASON STOUT

4 **PAGE TWO** A Cheating Top 10

8 **POSTMARKS** Internationally known teacher doesn't read the *Chronicle*, Gale remembered, and more

news

13 New School Could Serve an Added Purpose; City to Firefighters: No More Talks; and More

Read the Austin Firefighters Association's letter to City Manager Marc Ott
austinchronicle.com/webextra

16 **A YEAR IN REVIEW** The Top 10 election gaffes, quotes, local and state stories, and more

17 **CITY HALL HUSTLE** Top 10 City Council Stories
BY WELLS DUNBAR

18 **MEDIA WATCH** Top 10 Media Stories of 2008

19 **DEVELOPING STORIES** Top 10 Developments of '08

20 **REEFER MADNESS** Top 10 Joints

22 **LETTERS AT 3AM** A Day's Ride, 2008
BY MICHAEL VENTURA

23 **THE HIGHTOWER REPORT** Ban Cluster Bombs; and Christmas: Daddy's Philosophy

the arts

25 **LONG SHOT** What 2008 meant for Austin's arts scene, and a pair of Top 10s for the performing arts
BY ROBERT FAIRES

THE ACMES OF PASSING FANCIES Top 10s for the year in the performing and visual arts

30 **SOME STORIES** The best books of 2008

32 **AFTER A FASHION** Stephen counts down last year: Sometimes he loses count
BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

food

35 **2008 FOOD FAVORITES** The best of the past year in bites, markets, wine and kitchen gadgets, and more

40 **RESTAURANT ROULETTE** A spin around our Restaurant Guide

screens

44 The *Chronicle*'s Top 10 Films of 2008; 'Film News' Top 10 Austin Stories; and the Top 5 Gaming Trends of the Year

45 **TV EYE** It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World
BY BELINDA ACOSTA

46 **THE YEAR IN FILM** The *Chronicle*'s Film critics lay it all out there

music

49 **OFF THE RECORD** Casting the first ballot for the 2009 Austin Music Poll, keeping tabs on C3 Presents, counting down 2008 in lists, and talking trash with the Archibalds
BY AUSTIN POWELL

50 **PROVE IT ALL NIGHT** Local and national 2008 roundup from Raoul Hernandez and Audra Schroeder, plus the year-end Critics Poll

52 **TOP 10 NATIONAL** Ten lists by 10, Erykah Badu to Vampire Weekend

54 **TOP 10 TEXAS** Local and Lone Star Top 10s, Ariel Abshire to White Denim

55 **NEWS OF THE WEIRD** Santa's foreign helpers, a dentist does 'full-body cosmetic surgeries,' a 30-person bestiality ring, and more

calendar

56 **COMMUNITY**

Mercy sakes alive, looks like Santa left us a new president under the ol' tree. Happy nova annum to all of you from all of us as we enter the Obama years!

58 **DAY TRIPS** Top 10 day-tripping events of '08

61 **SPORTS**

PLAYING THROUGH A look back at 10 notable events in CenTex sports, '08 style

SOCCER WATCH The Aztex top the list of the year's notable soccer stories

62 **ARTS**

Theatre: *12 Steps to a More Dysfunctional Christmas*

Visual Arts: 'Reimagining Space: The Park Place Gallery Group in 1960s New York'

66 **FILM**

The Spirit

68 **SHOWTIMES**

74 **SPECIAL SCREENINGS** *Trinidad*, Sybil Danning Live at *Howling II* and *Chained Heat*, *El Topo*, *All Access: Front Row. Backstage. Live!*

76 **MUSIC**

RECOMMENDED New Year's Eve recommendeds, plus Emo's and Transmission Entertainment dueling free weeks, Ingebrigt Haaker Flaten, Tiny Vipers, Brazos, Chloe Day, and yes, the Trans-Siberian Orchestra

78 **VENUES**

80 **ROADSHOWS + CLUB LISTINGS**

back

97 **COMIX** *How to Be Happy*, *Troubletown*, *Eyebeam*, and more

MR. SMARTY PANTS The sex life of daddy longlegs, the real age of Beethoven, and more

98 **CLASSIFIEDS**

106 **THE COMMON LAW** Can I Change My Name Without a Lawyer?

CAR TALK This Gift Is Good to Go

109 **EASY STREET, PERSONALS**

THE LUV DOC A rambling recommendation to shore up your social calendar

111 **FREE WILL ASTROLOGY** It's time to get really serious about a big project, Capricorn

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

PUBLISHER Nick Barbaro
EDITOR Louis Black

SENIOR EDITORS
MANAGING EDITOR Cindy Widner
FILM Marjorie Baumgarten
ARTS Robert Faires
MUSIC Raoul Hernandez
NEWS Michael King
NEWS MANAGING EDITOR Amy Smith
FOOD Virginia B. Wood
SCREENS, BOOKS Kimberley Jones
SPECIAL ISSUES, GUIDES, INTERNS Kate Messer

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
NEWS Nora Ankrum
MUSIC Audra Schroeder

CALENDAR
ARTS LISTINGS Wayne Alan Brenner
COMMUNITY LISTINGS James Renovitch
ASST. LISTINGS Anne Harris

STAFF WRITERS
Wells Dunbar, Katherine Gregor, Margaret Moser, Lee Nichols, Marc Savlov, Jordan Smith

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
TV EYE Belinda Acosta
OFF THE RECORD Austin Powell
VISUAL ARTS LISTINGS Benné Rockett
DAY TRIPS Gerald E. McLeod
MR. SMARTY PANTS R.U. Steinberg
LETTERS AT 3AM Michael Ventura
LITERA Ric Williams
CLASSICAL, DANCE LISTINGS Robi Polgar
FASHION Stephen MacMillan Moser
GAY PLACE Ash Bell
PLAYING THROUGH Thomas Hackett

PRODUCTION
CREATIVE DIRECTOR Jason Stout
PRODUCTION MANAGER Mark Gates
WEB DIRECTOR Brian Barry
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS Tim Grisham, Shelley Hiam, Carrie Lewis, Chris Linnen, Liz Osting, Doug St. Ament
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS John Anderson, Jana Birchum
PROOFREADERS Sarah Jean Billeiter, Mark Fagan, Darcie Stevens, Kristine Tofte, Anna Toon
INTERNS Angela Armstrong, Zeke Barbaro, Nathan Brown, Meredith Greenwood, Monica Riese, Sara Robberson, Dacia Saenz, Meghan Ruth Speakerman, Richard Whittaker

ADVERTISING
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Simon Mulverhill
SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Jerald Corder, Annette Shelton Patterson, Carolyn Phillips, Lois Richwine
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Jeff Carlyon, Ali Garnel, Elizabeth Nitz, Angela Specht, Lori Whitley, Liz Withers
RETAIL OPERATIONS MANAGER Tobi Gates
ADVERTISING COORDINATOR Christina Jupson
ADVERTISING ASSISTANT Brandeaux Tourville
MARKETING DIRECTOR Erin Collier
PROMOTIONS MANAGER Logan Youree
CHRONTOURAGE Sarah Buser, Nicole Castanon, Nadia Elias, Charles Heidrick, Cat Herring, Marissa Kilgore, Ellen Mastenbrook, Linh Nguyen, Malorie Pieper, Danielle Prado, Emily Prevost, Lisa Sawaya, Alison Shepherd, Ashley Sherwood; photographers: Eric Lachey, Matthew Wedgwood
PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR/PERSONALS/CIRCULATION Dan Hardick
CLASSIFIEDS DIRECTOR Cassidy Frazier
CLASSIFIEDS COORDINATOR Michael Bartnett
SENIOR CLASSIFIED ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE Brian Carr
LEGAL NOTICES Jessica Nesbitt
CLASSIFIED ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Yasmine Anderson, Stephanie Boeke, Jessica Cape, Jane Gibson, Bobby Leath
NATIONAL ADVERTISING The Ruxton Group
NATIONAL SALES DIR. Susan Belair
MIDWEST SALES DIR. Stephen M. Lee
SOUTHWEST SALES DIR. Terri Smith

OFFICE STAFF
CFO Michael Schwarz
CONTROLLER Liz Franklin
SUBSCRIPTIONS Cassandra Pearce
CREDIT MANAGER cindy soo
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT Samantha Jenkins
INFO CENTER Fernando Martinez, Cassandra Pearce
SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR Rebecca Farr
ASST. SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR Frederick Stanton
SPECIAL EVENTS Elizabeth Derczo

CIRCULATION
Erik Conn, Perry Drake, Joy Fairchild, Tom Fairchild, Ruben Flores, Brent Malkus, Michael McKenzie, Grant Melcher, Paul Minor, Dane Richardson, Motorcycle Michael, Rex Fourtwenty, Jeff Watts, Nicholas Wibbelsman, John Williamson, David Williford

CONTRIBUTORS
Claudia Alarcón, Greg Beets, Kevin Brass, Rob Brezsny, Jim Caligiuri, Sandy Carson, Elizabeth Cobbe, Lloyd Dangle, Peat Duggins, Thomas Fawcett, Doug Freeman, Melanie Haupt, Taylor Holland, Chase Hoffberger, Sam Hurt, Michael Kellerman, Hannah Kenah, Rachel Koper, Tom and Ray Magliozzi, Daniel Mee, Tony Millionaire, Daniel Mottola, Peter Mueller, Joe O'Connell, MM Pack, Barry Pineo, Alan Pogue, Doug Potter, Kimberly Reeves, Sofia Resnick, Josh Rosenblatt, Patricia J. Ruland, Scott T. Samson, Jonelle Seitz, Chuck Shepherd, Darcie Stevens, Avimaan Syam, Kate Thornberry, Tom Tomorrow, Roy Tompkins, Jay Trachtenberg, Mick Vann, Shannon Wheeler, Richard Whittaker

The Austin Chronicle offers nonpaying internships.
Contact Kate Messer at the intern hotline, 454-5765 x303.

VERIFIED AUDIT CIRCULATION

The Austin Chronicle (ISSN: 1074-0740) is published by The Austin Chronicle Corporation weekly 52 times per year at 4000 N. I-35, Austin, TX 78751. 512/454-5766

©2007 Austin Chronicle Corp. All rights reserved.

Subscriptions: One year: $60 2nd class. Half-year: $35 2nd class. Periodicals Postage Paid at Austin, TX.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Austin Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765.

Unsolicited submissions (including but not limited to articles, artwork, photographs, and résumés) are not returned.

THIS WEEK @ austinchronicle.com

BLOGS > VLOGS > TUNES > GALLERIES > COMMENTS + FORUMS > BALLOTS + POLLS > GUIDES > CONTESTS > DAILY LISTINGS > BREAKING NEWS > + 455,000 PAGES THAT DON'T FIT IN PRINT

CHRONIC HABITUALLY UPDATED BUZZ austinchronicle.com/chronic

Newsdesk revisits **CITY HALL HUSTLE'S TOP 10** moments this year > Earache stays **FREE IN 2009** > The Score tackles **SPORTS BLATHERINGS FROM HERE AND AFAR** > Gay Place recounts 2008: **THE YEAR OF HOPE AND IMPACT** > Picture in Picture hashes out **THE YEAR IN FILM** > Chronique has **TOP 10s**, too, you know

For this week's Web Extras and more Web exclusives, go to: austinchronicle.com/webextra.

'POSTMARKS' online – updated (almost) daily > **ASK MR. SMARTY PANTS** – sooner or later, he'll answer > **'SOCCER WATCH'** online – updates from everywhere

NEW YEAR? GET NEW GEAR!

PRICES SO FINE FOR 2009

COMPLETE PACKAGE
COMPUTER + 15" LCD



DELL GX270
2.8 GHZ CPU
512MB RAM
40GB HDD

INTERNET READY!
MOUSE + KEYBOARD INCL.
WINDOWS XP PREINSTALLED!

$249

DELL LATITUDE D600



$349
WINDOWS XP PRELOADED

1.6 GHZ CPU
512MB RAM
40GB HDD
DVD/CD-RW
WIRELESS

512MB DDR MEMORY
$19



DESKTOP OR LAPTOP

80GB HARD DRIVE



$29
3.5" IDE

PANDA ANTIVIRUS 2009



$12
365 DAYS OF UPDATES

COMPLETE PACKAGE
COMPUTER + 17" CRT

GX260
P4 1.8GHZ
256MB
20GB



$179
INCL. MOUSE + KEYBOARD
WINDOWS XP PREINSTALLED

DELL 20.1" LCD



1600 X 1200
ANALOG + DVI
S-VIDEO
COMPOSITE

$199

LAPTOP DVDRW



MOST DELL MODELS
$59

WIRELESS KEYBOARD
OPTICAL MOUSE



$19

PARROT DRIVEBLUE
BLUETOOTH
HANDSFREE
CAR KIT



$29

DELL LAPTOP BACKPACK



$19

MCAFEE ANTIVIRUS 2009



$29
FULL YEAR OF UPDATES

120GB EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE



$49

LEXMARK Z645



$39
COLOR PRINTER

LAPTOP AC ADAPTERS



$29 + UP

6' VGA CABLE



$5

LOGITECH 1.3MP QUICKCAM FUSION



$29

DELL A525
3 PIECE SPEAKER SET



$25
GREAT 4 IPOD/PHONE

DELL OPTIPLEX GX280
2.8GHZ CPU
DVD-CD/RW
80GB
1GB



$199
WINDOWS XP PREINSTALLED

DVD/RW DRIVE



$29
SATA OR IDE

DELL WIRELESS BLUETOOTH MOUSE



$9

DELL USB KEYBOARD



$5



WIDE SCREEN

DELL LATITUDE D620
1.8GHZ
1GB MEM
80GB
DVD/CDRW

$599
WINDOWS XP PRELOADED

DELL 15" LCD MONITOR

$49



6' HDMI CABLE



$15

$9
PLANTRONICS PC HEADSET



15' USB CABLE



$5

SANDISK SANSA "CLIP" 4GB MP3 PLAYER



$59
SIZE DOES MATTER

LAPTOP SCREENS



$99-$279

LAPTOP KEYBOARDS



$29
MOST DELL MODELS

DISCOUNT electronics.com

1011 W. ANDERSON LANE - 1 BLOCK WEST OF LAMAR
459-0026 SHOP ONLINE AT DISCOUNTELECTRONICS.COM
OPEN EVERY DAY MON TO SAT 9 TO 9 SUN 11 TO 6

A Cheating Top 10

An introduction, then a list of lots of cool things, shoved into 10 slots, that are not necessarily related to 2008

BY LOUIS BLACK

I don't do Top 10 lists. I don't have a favorite film; I don't even have a handful of favorite films. Instead, I have dozens. Trying to do these lists – whether for movies, music, or whatever – always makes me more crazed than is at all reasonable. Clearly, such lists are very arbitrary, so I am pained over not only what I include but also over what is left out, and even more over what gets forgotten.

Here is a list of many different things that I enjoyed this year, force-fitted into 10 slots. This is by no means complete (whatever that may mean in this context) but is random and arbitrary. There was so much great music that I either heard for the first time or revisited in the past year that new, old, and re-released CDs are not included on this list. In that direction lay only madness.

1) **Lynd Ward** Ward was a woodcut artist whose work illustrates many books. He also produced six graphic novels, telling the story with only woodcuts. *Gods' Man* (1929), his first, is just fantastic – well, actually, they are all quite excellent. *Gods' Man* evokes the exquisite silent masterpiece *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans*, directed by F.W. Murnau. Dover has reprinted *Gods' Man*, *Madman's Drum* (1930), and *Wild Pilgrimage* (1932) and has announced that in the near future it will reprint his last woodcut novel, *Vertigo* (1937). The only criticism of these reprints is that they have a woodcut on every page: The original editions had the woodcuts facing a blank white page. All are easily found online.

2) **Winsor McCay and George Herriman** People often talk about who was the first person to do something in a creative medium, but one of the amazing things about the last century and a half is how quickly art forms matured. In terms of perspective – use of the comic-strip frame, violating rules, exaggeration, and pushing the envelope with art and stories – the work of McCay, one of the first great cartoonists, still not only holds up but is often startling. He did a number of strips, but the two great ones are *Dreams of a Rarebit Fiend*, which appeared from 1904 to 1913, and *Little Nemo in Slumberland*, from 1905 until 1914. It's worth noting that McCay also created *Gertie the Dinosaur*, generally regarded as the first cartoon.

Evolving out of another strip, Herriman's *Krazy Kat* remains one of the great masterpieces of American surrealism. Appearing from 1913 until Herriman's death in 1944, the strip is simple in narrative but complex and brilliant in every other way. Quality reprints of both McCay's and Herriman's works are readily available.

3) **Will Eisner's *The Spirit* and *Plastic Man* by Jack Cole** There are a lot of interesting and exciting comic books, as well as many meaningful and even inspiring ones, but some of the greatest work ever done in comic books is from these two of the very few geniuses in that field. On both of these artists and their creations, I could write a very long introduction, but not here. *The Spirit* was featured in a 12-page comic-book supplement that was inserted into newspapers. The brilliance of the comic has to do with storytelling techniques, the stories themselves, and the use of art and design. The character of the Spirit was great but was sometimes barely included in the strip and was a minor player in others. The stories still work, the art is still striking, and Eisner did create some of the great female villains of that period.

page two

Just as the character Plastic Man was not bound to the usual physical limitations of the skeleton and flesh, Cole similarly was not limited by story, tradition, comic-book panel art, or character. In its admirable and extensive Archive Editions, DC Comics has produced at least 25 volumes of the *Spirit* stories and at least a couple of *Plastic Man* volumes, but these are more for the aficionado than the novice. Instead, as introductory volumes, the best currently available for the *The Spirit* is *The Best of the Spirit* by Will Eisner, a trade paperback from DC Comics containing reprints of 22 great *Spirit* stories. Art Spiegelman and Chip Kidd's *Jack Cole and Plastic Man: Forms Stretched to Their Limits!* (Chronicle Books by arrangement with DC comics) is a serious consideration and biography of Cole that includes a lot of art; at least three full *Plastic Man* stories; another featuring his sidekick, Woozy Winks; and one Jack Cole story from True Crime Comics. (Interestingly but not surprisingly, Eisner cites Lynd Ward as a major influence.)

4) **Craig Rice** Currently, every black-and-white film made in the Forties or Fifties has been re-released as a film noir, with most of them tagged as forgotten noir masterpieces. Now, Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler have long been in vogue, but the last couple of decades have seen the resurrection, re-evaluation, and reprinting of a number of the lesser-known hard-boiled or tough-guy writers, including Jim Thompson, Paul Cain, David Goodis, and even Horace McCoy. Still, some of the best journeyman detective writers of that time remain neglected. Few of them are as good as, and none is better than, Craig Rice (pseudonym for Georgiana Ann Craig). Rice was the first detective writer to be featured on the cover of *Time* magazine; her mysteries, including *8 Faces at 3*, *The Big Midget Murders*, *Having Wonderful Crime*, and *My Kingdom for a Hearse*, feature the couple Jake and Helen Justus and their friend John J. Malone: a short, rotund, hard-drinking lawyer. When someone asks him, "Are you on a case?" Malone replies, "Working my way through the second bottle."

Rice ghosted novels for George Sanders and Gypsy Rose Lee and, in one of the great team-ups in history, co-wrote stories with her friend Stuart Palmer, featuring Malone and Palmer's main character, the schoolteacher turned detective Miss Hildegarde Withers. Many of these works have been reprinted by various publishers at different times.

5 & 6) **Mabel Normand and Roscoe Arbuckle** Sadly, the only things most people know about Arbuckle is that he was very fat (thus the nickname "Fatty") and he was involved in one of Hollywood's earliest and most notorious scandals. This is a shame, as the 300-pound Arbuckle was most likely completely innocent, and, given his size, his athleticism and comic abilities are just wonderful. The brilliance of both these inspired comedians, who appeared in literally dozens of shorts together, really needs to be seen rather than discussed. In light of her films and influence, the story of dark-haired, exotic comedienne Normand is very much undertold. She was Keystone Comedies' Mack Sennett's longtime on-again, off-again girlfriend, and she spoke up on behalf of Arbuckle and Chaplin when he was uncertain about their abilities.

continued on p.6

Auld Lang 'Chron'

On Wednesday, Dec. 31, we will close at 3pm and remain closed until Monday, Jan. 5, 2009, when we will resume regular business hours.

Be careful out there.

CARNAVAL
Benefiting Austin Sunshine Camps
January 31 ★ Palmer Events Center
CarnavalAustin.com
TICKETS: Online, or Waterloo Records, Tabu Lingerie, Ana Brasil, The Bazaar
SPONSORS: Bud Light, Tabu Lingerie, Longhorn Limos, News 8-Austin, Ana Brasil, 101X, KGSR
BUD LIGHT

Reader COMMENTS of the Week

austinchronicle.com/comments

Re: "Please Don't Cut Public-Safety Budget":

"We currently have plenty of police to patrol your area [Montopolis]. The number/budget is not the problem. The powers that be simply do not care. I say cut the budget, fire half of the police, and get new management/politicians. My neighborhood is pretty safe; I've never heard of any crime. Yet, everytime I turn onto the main road nearby, I see a couple of cop cars or motorcycle cops. The problem is not a lack of funds or police, just a poor management of both." – Guest

Postmarks online, Dec. 23











Normand directed some of the earliest Chaplin shorts in which she co-starred and also co-directed three shorts with Chaplin before he went off to direct on his own. Arbuckle had a long run at Keystone and then made a series of comedy shorts for Paramount. It was while making those that he met Buster Keaton, whom he featured in many shorts as well as taught about filmmaking. One or two of his features had been released, with an extraordinary seven others finished and waiting to be released, when his career disappeared. I love both these talents for their comic gifts. Even if Normand wasn't nearly as talented as she is, I would still adore her because, when she talks to Arbuckle, though the title card may read "Fatty," you can see her carefully mouth "Roscoe," every time.

7) **Robert Thom** Thom is a screenwriter whose strength is an almost unimaginable perversity. The purest Thom is in the one film he directed, *Angel, Angel Down We Go*, and *The Witch Who Came From the Sea*, directed by Matt Cimber. In many films he wrote, the screenplay got toned down considerably. These included 1968's *Wild in the Streets* (D: Barry Shear), 1975's *Death Race 2000* (D: Paul Bartel), and 1975's *Crazy Mama* (D: Jonathan Demme). Arguably Roger Corman's *Bloody Mama* (1970), based on a Thom script, is as perverse if not as hallucinatory. Recently the Alamo Drafthouse screened *The Witch Who Came From the Sea* at midnight to an audience that was appropriately taken aback.

Reader COMMENTS of the Week

austinchronicle.com/comments

Re: "Workingman's Blues":

"I taught labor relations at Texas Tech for many years. It became mostly labor history, with student groups doing presentations from the above highlights, and showing clips of this excellent film list. I was really surprised at the depth and accuracy of the article. I didn't know that many folks knew or cared about this most fascinating part of American history. I am writing another novel, set in Colorado and Utah in 1913-1915. My heroes are Wobblies, songwriters, and con men. They meet Mother Jones after the Ludlow massacre. They visit Joe Hill in jail. One thinks he is guilty. One thinks he is innocent. Guess which way I believe. My characters lead 25,000 people singing Joe Hill's songs from his little pocket-size song book. The songs were set to the melodies of well-known hymns. Nearly all the labor movies are excellent. Bound for Glory, *Woody Guthrie's biography, is one of my favorites."* – Johnny Hughes

"Page Two," Dec. 26

8) ***Living in the Woods in a Tree: Remembering Blaze Foley*, by Sybil Rosen** It's not just a beautifully written book, offering a great portrait of Foley, but in addition captures a certain lifestyle of the 1970s as well as anything else and better than most. It was great not only to get to spend some time with Foley again but to do it without the often-destructive craziness of when I really knew him.

9 & 10) **A hoped-for 2009 DVD review series** I'm hoping to find the time in 2009 to initiate a series of DVD reviews on movies that are perfect candidates to be cult movies but which are not really considered as such: Instead, many of them are still largely unknown, even among the devoted. There are, of course, fans of these movies, but, for one reason or another, they haven't achieved the status of *Faster, Pussycat! Kill! Kill!* and *Eraserhead*.

All these films don't necessarily share any characteristics. When available, the condition is often crappy, and the colors have often bled red. I use two numbers for this entry but will mention more than two films.

The story of a big-game hunter's two daughters who live together in a bizarre, baroque old house, Karen Arthur's *The Mafu Cage*, starring Lee Grant and Carol Kane, is unique unto itself.

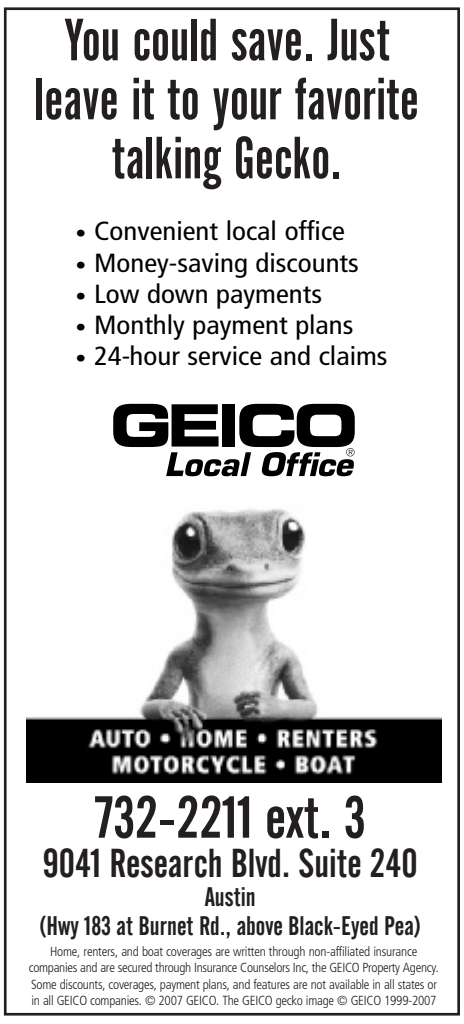
The filmography of Monte Hellman is problematic in that his two great existential Westerns – *Ride in the Whirlwind* and *The Shooting*, both starring a very young Jack Nicholson – are more pretentious than artful. I haven't seen many of his other early titles, but in general, I've lost a lot of my affection for generic drive-in exploitation films. Both the controversial *Two-Lane Blacktop* and *China 9, Liberty 37* are great. Regardless, 1974's Corman-produced *Cockfighter* is a stone-cold masterpiece. The great Warren Oates stars as a master cockfighter who, at the end of the previous season, had bragged on his fighting cock, only to get the bird engaged in a meaningless fight that it lost. Since then, Oates' character has taken a vow of silence. In this time where the deification of pets has become so completely unreal, for some of you this should be a brutal antidote.

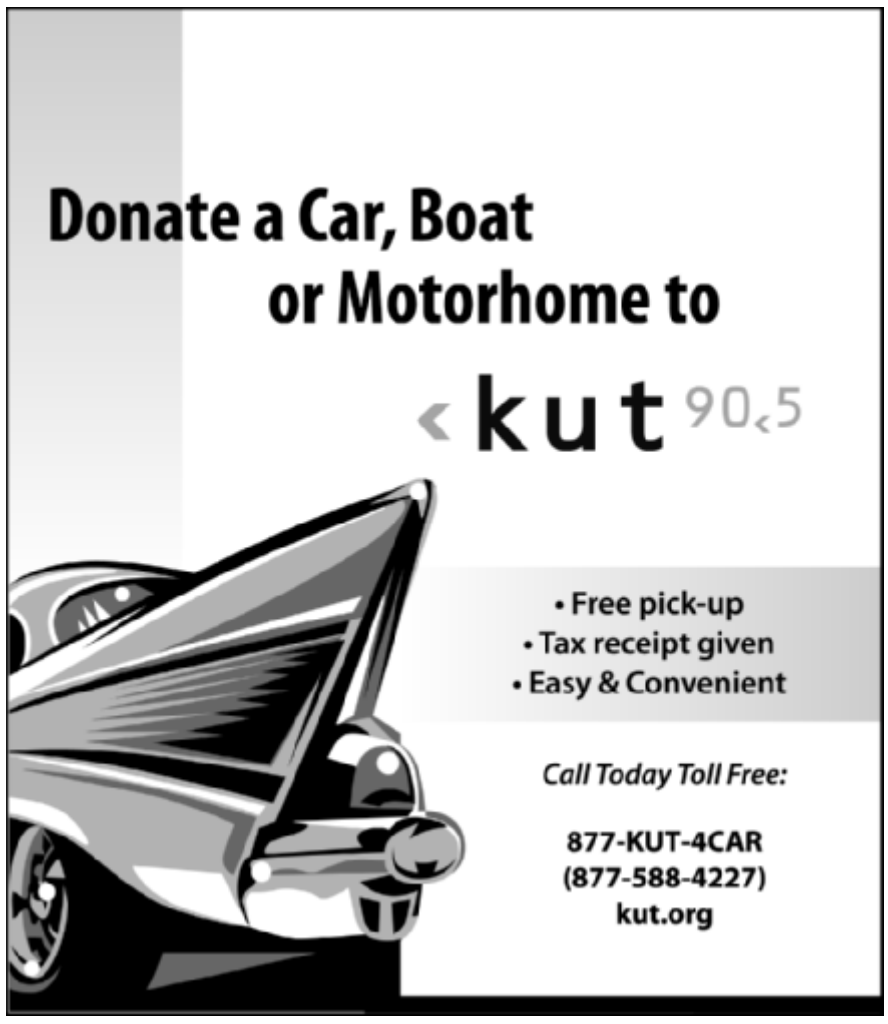
One of my programming dreams is to present a double bill of the just-made-available-on-DVD *Payday*, starring Rip Torn as a Merle Haggard-type honky-tonk country & western singer, and the Bud Shrake-written *Songwriter*, starring Willie Nelson and Kris Kristofferson. Together they present the most honest portrayal of the music scene imaginable.

Jonathan Demme is a longtime favorite, with debut film *Caged Heat* having almost passed into cult status. Any number of his films should join it, including the Thom-authored *Crazy Mama*, *Something Wild*, *Citizens Band*, and *Melvin and Howard*. Recently released on DVD is his long-unavailable, absolutely wonderful *American Playhouse* production of *Who Am I This Time?* based on a Kurt Vonnegut Jr. short story. ■









METAPHYSICAL FAIR



OSH ANCIENT — JADE SKULL

Prediction Panel - Friday January 2nd - 7:30 - 10:00
Saturday, January 3rd - 10:00 - 6:00
Sunday, January 4th - 11:00 - 6:00

RADISSON HOTEL AUSTIN N.
6000 Middle Fiskville Rd.
Austin, TX 78752

$8.00 Door
FREE LECTURES!

Aura Photos, Robert Baca, Yanie Brewer, Karin Berghold, Julia Chambers, Deborah Dahman, Kat Darden. Elka LeFevre Robin Lynn, Joe Nicols, Julie Reeves, Jean Shaw, Jan Tinkler, Kramer Wetzel, Sasha White, Rev Zachren and more And many more & Many More!







SAVE NOW THRU FEBRUARY 1ST

Upper Lip ONLY $20.09!*
Chin ONLY $20.09!*
Underarms ONLY $20.09!*

*$20.09 for your first treatment, $49 per site for additional treatments.
Valid for new clients or existing clients treating new site.
Additional treatment price valid for all clients.

Smooth Solutions
Laser Hair Removal & Skin Rejuvenation

Call to schedule your free consultation
Toll free 866-403-0300
www.smoothsolutions.net

6800 BURNET ROAD, SUITE 5
AUSTIN, TX

Price is per session, see store for complete details.

©2009 Smooth Solutions, LP

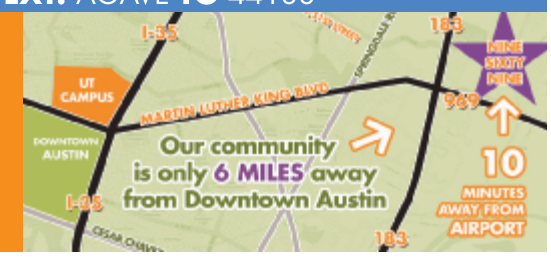
NINE SIXTY NINE

The Biggest Names in Modern Architecture alongside
The Smallest Energy Costs... & Affordable Pricing



FOR INFO TEXT: AGAVE **TO** 44133

WINNER: Coolest U.S. Neighborhood
WINNER: Best Cubist Neighborhood
Award-Winning Modern Architects
Energy-Efficient & Green Features



agave ARCHITECTURAL
Contemporary Living
Priced from the 250Ks

agave DESIGN
Grand Opening
Priced from the 190Ks

THE villas
Mediterranean Style
from the 170Ks.

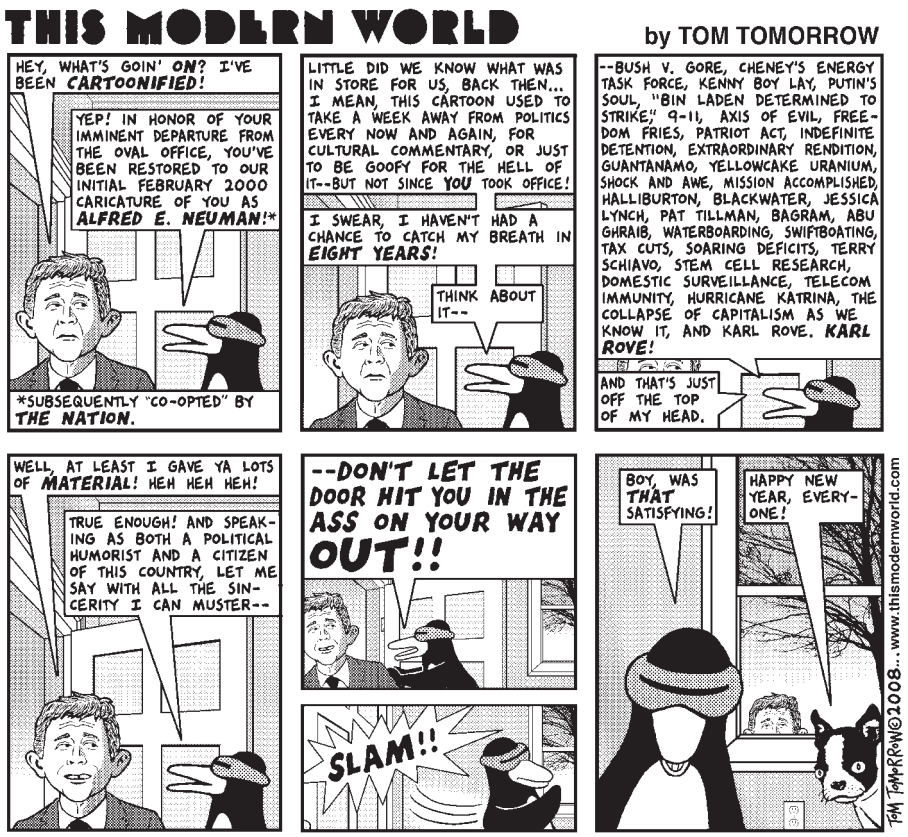
fiore
Coming Soon!
from the 300Ks

WATSON
512/424.9523

MODEL OPEN DAILY / CALL FOR HOURS & DIRECTIONS
www.**NineSixtyNine**.com / **512.927.2626**

Take MLK east from downtown, cross 183 and continue approx. 1 mile, make a left at Sendero Hills Parkway. The model is the first home on your right on Sendero Hills.

vicinia DEVELOPMENT
KELLER WILLIAMS



Postmarks

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

General e-mail address: **mail@austinchronicle.com** Postmarks forum: **austinchronicle.com/forums/postmarks**
Mailing address: *The Austin Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765

WON'T BE READING 'CHRONICLE'

Dear Editor,

I only look at your movie listings. I never read the *Chronicle* anymore, due to the philosophy the paper has that negativity and cynicism are equal to insight and wisdom. That if it's violent, disgustingly negative, and painful, it must be "real life." If it's harsh, it must be truly meaningful and representative of "reality."

The *Chronicle*'s philosophy appears to be that if it's uplifting or beautiful or funny, it's not "real life." It must be meaningless fluff.

Sad, sad, sad.

If everyone believed as you do, it would become a dark world indeed; for what we focus on, we create more of. We create it, then say, "See, it's real!" Then we create more of it and say, "See, more evidence that it's real!"

Those of us who live happy lives subscribe to quite a different philosophy of seeking out what is uplifting.

Most of the world has no recognition of the power of their attention, and the *Chronicle* is just another sheep following the herd in unexamined madness, right along with mainstream media.

You are not different than the *Statesman* in that way; you're just putting the bad news in the spotlight in hipper terms and making it sexier.

I came to your website today for movie times and happened to read a review (even though I know better). Your movie reviews pan anything positive, and so I take your reviews in reverse. If your reviewer pans it, I go see it. If your reviewer loved it, I don't go see it.

I Googled further and saw nothing but positive 4½- to five-star reviews of *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*. You gave it two [Film Listings, Dec. 26].

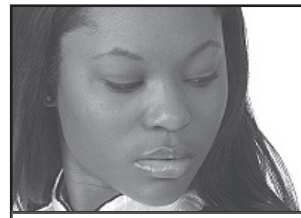
You have the right to champion your dark version of the world. No argument there. I just won't be a reader.

Best to you,
Lola Jones
Internationally known teacher based in Austin

p.s. I guess the title "critic" gets taken too literally. Anyone can criticize. It takes no creativity, heart, brains, or discernible talent. Everyone on the street does it constantly, and it's a waste of time, creative energy, and breath … and space in your paper.

CONTINUED ON P.10


Happy Holidays
from Austin Steam Train Association!
AUSTIN STEAM TRAIN
Give something original this year...a gift certificate for a vintage train ride! Then book any 2009 train beginning January 2nd. Young and old will enjoy this unique gift. Then journey into 2009 by taking the New Year's Eve Twilight Flyer. Visit the website and purchase your tickets today. This is a popular train, so buy tickets now. All aboard!
RESERVATIONS
512-477-8468
www.AustinSteamTrain.org
A nonprofit volunteer organization.


Bringing Hope & Healing Since 1967
AFFORDABLE
"Best Place to Kick It"
The Austin Chronicle

DRUG TREATMENT

Non-profit / 30-days: Under $5,000
CALL (512) 697-8600
AUSTIN RECOVERY
where the healing begins
www.austinrecovery.org

Just east of downtown at 4th and Comal | Mon - Fri 9 - 6 Sat 8 - 5 | Ph 512.478.2165
WWW.RE-STORE.COM
New Year's Resolution
Save more. Do more.
At the ReStore.
You can do more in 2009.
For a whole lot less.
More for your house.
More for the environment.
More for your budget.
RIGHT HERE. IN AUSTIN.
THE NATION'S
Austin Habitat for Humanity
ReStore
ORIGINAL
The more you shop. The more we change lives.

BUY 3 HOURS GET THE FOURTH FREE
purchase before 12.31.08
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!
Give yourself the gift of time. Let me...
Do Your Bizness
errands. shopping. time-consuming tasks.
From bank trips to dry cleaning to the post office. Whether it's shopping for groceries or gifts or party supplies. Maybe help with gift wrapping or waiting for the cable man or caring for plants and pets.
Trust a bonded/insured professional personal assistant to Do Your Bizness!
Karin Voorhies, 626.9256, doyourbizness.com
Austin Chamber of Commerce PROUD MEMBER

TICKETCITY
A BETTER EXPERIENCE LIVES HERE!
12/30 Radio City Christmas Spectacular
1/4 Trans-Siberian Orchestra
Find Tickets To All Concerts Nationwide!
472-TIXX
TICKETCITY.COM/AUSTIN

JEEP MASTERS
AUSTIN, TEXAS
THE DEALERSHIP ALTERNATIVE
jeepmasters.com

SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE
30K-60K-90K
TUNE-UPS
ENGINES • BRAKES
TRANSMISSIONS
EXHAUST
CUSTOM MODS
COLLISION,
PAINT & BODY



CALL FOR ESTIMATES
JEEP MASTERS
326-3555
www.jeepmasters.com
2617 SOUTH FIRST ST.



CITY OF AUSTIN SOLID WASTE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Holiday Collection Schedule

for garbage, recycling & yard trimmings collection

Christmas Day & New Year's Day are "Slide" holidays

Thursday DECEMBER	SLIDE	Friday DECEMBER	SLIDE	Saturday DECEMBER
~~25~~ ***NO* COLLECTION** CHRISTMAS DAY	→	26 THURSDAY COLLECTION	→	27 FRIDAY COLLECTION

The City's Household Hazardous Waste Facility will be closed the week of Christmas and New Year's Day.

Thursday JANUARY	SLIDE	Friday JANUARY	SLIDE	Saturday JANUARY
~~1~~ ***NO* COLLECTION** NEW YEAR'S DAY	→	2 THURSDAY COLLECTION	→	3 FRIDAY COLLECTION

CURBSIDE CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING — STARTING DECEMBER 26
Set your tree at the curb by 6:30 a.m. on your yard trimmings collection day. Remove all ornaments, lights, decorations and the stand; only the tree itself can be recycled. ***Trees six feet or taller must be cut in half.***

TREES CAN ALSO BE RECYCLED AT ZILKER PARK DROP OFF.
Visit austinrecycles.com for details.



Call 3-1-1 for more information or visit
austinrecycles.com

 CONTINUED FROM P.8

SOMETHING ABOUT JENNIFER GALE

Dear Editor,

I became familiar with Jennifer Gale from riding on the Capital Metro bus – mostly from hearing her talk to other people and then talking to her myself a couple of times.

There was something about her that was very sweet and innocent somehow, and she was always and forever telling people silly and corny jokes – which seemed to be because she was trying to cheer people up.

When she would ask people to vote for her, she'd say she wanted to be a representative for everyone and would ask what people wanted changed and listen with much interest.

She didn't ever seem to want anything from other people; rather, she seemed to want to give to others. In this way, she touched me very much.

Anyhow, I didn't hear about her death until nearly a week after it happened. One friend told me it was on a very cold (freezing) night. Another friend told me she had been outdoors, in front of a church. She had always seemed pretty healthy and young for being in her 40s. I fear she died of neglect and cold more than anything else.

But there was something about her. Kind of like an angel. Her death touches me more than most I hear about. I heard they were having a memorial for her somewhere Downtown this past Sunday afternoon (Dec. 21) ["Naked City," News, Dec. 26]. I didn't catch where, and if it had not been so cold, I would have tried to find out and gone.

I'm glad she does not have to suffer homelessness anymore. I wish so much we could all pull together and end homelessness for everyone who wants a home. God bless you, Jennifer Gale.

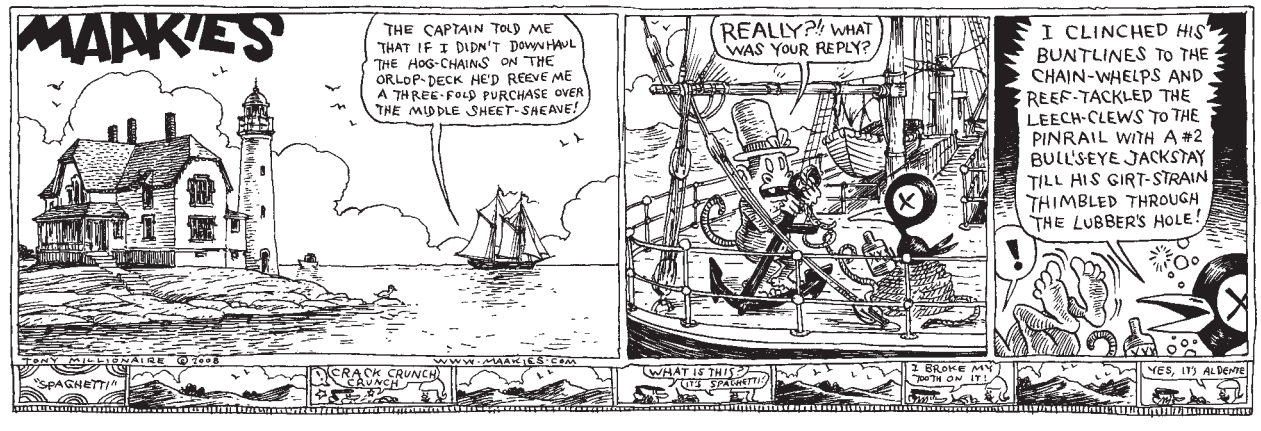
Michele Deradune

DON'T BLAME THE UNIONS

Dear Editor,

Anytime there is a crisis, such as the current big three automotive problems, some people will work to solve the crisis, and some will spend all their time trying to lay the blame on those they dislike while covering up for those they favor. Such is the case of those who are blaming the unions for the decline of Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler. American automakers built giant gas-guzzlers because a segment of society wanted them, but when the price of gas shot up, the automakers could not adjust quickly enough for the new demand of society. Now they have millions of SUVs and pickups sitting on lots that no one wants to buy. The current crisis in Detroit is a management crisis not a labor crisis. Trying to blame the unions for this mess is like trying to blame the engine room crew for the sinking of the *Titanic* ["Page Two," Dec. 26].

Clifton Smith



KUDOS TO STUBB'S MANAGER

Dear Editor,

I would like to send kudos out to Ryan Garrett, the manager at Stubb's. We often hear complaints about crowds, high ticket prices, and general rudeness in our venues around town, so I wanted to commend Ryan for going above and beyond his "job" to make my sister comfortable on a recent visit to a late show.

I called him after we had already purchased tickets to the Wood Brothers indoor show on Dec. 5 to ask if they could accommodate my sister, Diana, who was coming in for the show and had recently had knee-replacement surgery. Ryan was extremely helpful. He let us in the venue early and provided a place for her to sit comfortably (we were there for hours).

What a class act! Many, many thanks to Ryan and the staff at Stubb's.

Sincerely,
Pamela Shaw

WORKING WITH MUSICIANS IS A GIFT

Dear Editor,

When I moved here, I started the pleasurable tradition of reading about the town culture in the *Chronicle*. Later, an article by Michael Corcoran led me to the SIMS Foundation as a volunteer. I now sit on the board of directors. Thanks for the great lead; working with musicians has been a gift!

Catarina Sigerfoos
Member, board of directors
SIMS Foundation









AHH, THE REFRESHING TASTE OF VICTORY.

LIVE RESPONSIBLY Miller
©2008 MILLER BREWING CO., MILWAUKEE, WI



4-TIME GOLD AWARD WINNER
AT THE WORLD BEER CUP®

BEST AMERICAN-STYLE LIGHT LAGER
IN 2006, 2002, 1998, AND 1996

GREAT TASTE. LESS FILLING.®

SUNSTONE 2½

SUNSTONE yoga

maximum fitness for a busy world



Keeping fitness levels high and stress levels low is vital in today's world, but most of us are having trouble finding the time to get the exercise we need.

That's why we've created **Sunstone 2½** - a program that provides you with four major health benefits in just 2.5 hours a week*:

- **Strength & Flexibility**
- **Natural Weight Management**
- **Cardiovascular Health**
- **Emotional Well-being & Stress Relief**

Our students tell us that our classes have completely changed their lives. Isn't it worth $10 to find out if Sunstone Yoga could change your life?

* According to recent guidelines from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2.5 hours a week of moderate activity provide adults with substantial health benefits. For more information, visit www.hhs.gov.

North Hills Center

10710 Research Blvd, Ste 326
Austin, Texas 78759 · 512.287.7047 x114

The Triangle

4616 Triangle Avenue #406
Austin, Texas 78751 · 512.287.7047 x111

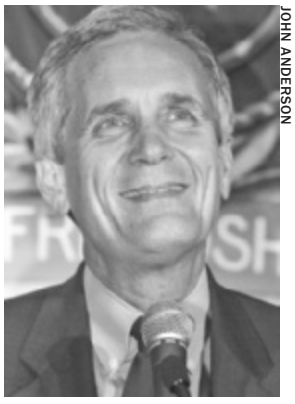
10 days $ for 10

For more information about our yoga, classes, locations, and schedules, visit:

sunstoneyoga.com

news

17 City Hall Hustle 18 Media Watch 19 Developing Stories
20 Reefer Madness 23 The Hightower Report


JOHN ANDERSON

Top 10 QUOTES of the WEEK

1) "Three hundred fifty-seven days and counting …"
– U.S. Rep. **Lloyd Doggett**, D-Austin, reacting after President Bush's State of the Union address (Feb. 1 issue)

2) "The district attorney is a woman – how cool is that?"
– District attorney candidate **Mindy Montford**, after her resounding loss to new Travis Co. District Attorney **Rosemary Lehmberg** (April 11 issue)

3) "History appears poised to confirm what most Americans today have decided – that the decision to invade Iraq was a serious strategic blunder."
– Austinite and former Bush press secretary **Scott McClellan** spills the Bush beans in his new book, *What Happened* (May 30 issue)

4) "Protect them from losing their wits, their nerves, or their souls in the heady atmosphere of local governmental affairs so that we the people may flourish in a city blessed with liberty and peace and justice."
– The Rev. **Joseph C. Parker** Jr., of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, in his invocation at the swearing-in of the new City Council (July 4 issue)

5) "We have … become a nation of whiners. You just hear this constant whining, complaining about a loss of competitiveness, America in decline."
– **Phil Gramm**, former Texas senator and now, thoroughly clueless economic adviser to **John McCain** (July 18 issue)


DOUG POTTER

6) "She's not prepared to be governor. How can she be prepared to be vice president or president? Look at what she's done to this state. What would she do to the nation?"
– Alaska Senate President **Lyda Green** (Republican), on GOP vice presidential nominee **Sarah Palin** (Sept. 5 issue)

7) "Yes, we can."
– President-elect **Barack Obama** (Nov. 7 issue)

8) "She couldn't get elected if two of her opponents died."
– Political consultant **Peck Young**, quoted in PolitickerTX.com, on former Austin mayor and state Comptroller **Carole Keeton Strayhorn**, who's considering another run for mayor (Nov. 21 issue)



9) "People who are militant Darwinists … want to pull out that language and treat evolution separately than how we teach all other theories."
– State Board of Education member and creationist **Terri Leo**, who supports changing the way science is taught in public schools (Nov. 28 issue)

10) "Happy New Year, Austin! We'll be home for Christmas, if only in our dreams."
– **Jennifer Gale**, scheduled to speak Dec. 18 before City Council but found dead the morning before, outside a North Campus church (Dec. 19 issue)


DOUG POTTER

Headlines

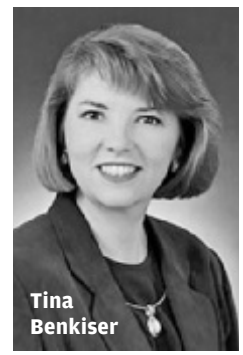
- At press time, **Israel** continued a pummeling offensive against the **Hamas** government in Gaza. Retaliating for comparatively weak rocket fire into Israel, hundreds of air assaults have rocked the Gaza Strip, killing more than 300, including 51 civilians, according to the United Nations.
- The I-wanna-be-speaker list hit a baker's dozen, as Georgetown Republican **Dan Gattis** added his name, and the House Democratic Caucus released its list of 64 Dems who have pledged not to vote for incumbent Speaker **Tom Craddick**. For a change, it looks like an interesting January at the Capitol; see "Anti-Craddick Reps Learn Their ABCs," below.
- The **Austin Firefighters Association** asked City Manager **Marc Ott** to reopen negotiations on the proposed contract rejected by union members a month ago, and Ott said, "No dice." See "City to Firefighters," p.14.
- Happy New Year! Imbibe carefully, celebratory chauffeurs, as the **Austin Police Department** has announced its latest **no-refusal initiative** for Dec. 31 – DUI suspects refusing a Breathalyzer will be arrested and have blood drawn.

Naked City

- **A PIECE OF AUSTIN'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY** Civic leader **Fred McGhee** won the first round against the city in his fight to preserve the auditorium and gymnasium of the former **Texas Blind, Deaf, and Orphan School**, formerly a charity-sponsored school for black children prior to its desegregation in 1965. Last week, City Council moved, on first reading, to recommend historic zoning and adaptive reuse of the 44-acre Levander Loop site, overruling the city staff's recommendation. The city, which now owns the site, has been using it for the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department. City staff had its own arguments against the zoning – it only served as the campus for a handful of years, the cost of restoration was cost-prohibitive, and a portion of the site was being put aside for the city's new animal shelter – but council was swayed by McGhee's arguments that federal money is available to preserve the site and that this campus is the only remnant of an important page in Austin's African-American history. *– Kimberly Reeves*
- **ANTI-CRADDICK REPS LEARN THEIR ABCs** With the next legislative session starting on Jan. 13, the race to replace Speaker **Tom Craddick** has gained momentum. First, on Dec. 22, 11 anti-Craddick Republicans – including all six that had at that point filed to challenge the incumbent in the 81st session – held a meeting/teleconference in Austin to select a candidate from among their ranks, and the selected name is being kept under wraps until Jan. 2, as is a promised list of more Republican supporters. Then on Dec. 28, Rep. **Dan Gattis**, R-Georgetown, became the seventh anti-Craddick Republican challenger and 13th House member to file to run for speaker. Finally, on Dec. 29, Democratic House Caucus Chair Jim Dunnam released his list of 64 ABCDs – Anybody but Craddick Democrats, the members who have signed a pledge to "not vote for Tom Craddick for speaker for the 81st Legislature under any circumstances" (10 Dems, including Rep. Dawnna Dukes, Austin, still remain uncommitted). Combined with the 12 announced Republican rebels, this means 76 anti-Craddick votes. Now the question is whether this unknown Republican alternative can keep those supporters unified and win the Democrats over as a single voting block.
– Richard Whittaker
- **A WEE FINE FOR DUKES** The Texas Ethics Commission has found that Austin Democratic Rep. **Dawnna Dukes**' election campaign violated **state finance rules** and has fined Dukes' family member and campaign treasurer **Ateja Dukes** $2,800. On Dec. 4, the commission found that in the four campaign reports filed since Jan. 29, 2008, Dukes failed to explain adequately where $7,007 in campaign funds went – the reports simply said they went toward credit-card debt, without listing who the original vendors were. The commission's resolution says it is "unclear whether the interest payments were related solely to campaign activity or if portions were related to personal use of the credit card." Dukes still has not corrected the reports, said the commission, even though she promised to do so last February. The size of the fine, which seems small, has raised some eyebrows. For context, in 2005 the commission fined former Austin Rep. Ann Kitchen $10,000 for accidentally filing a corrected report late (see "Oh, Now They Care About Ethics," Jan. 21, 2005). *– R.W.*


Dawnna Dukes
JOHN ANDERSON

CONTINUED ON P.14


Tina Benkiser

› **TEXAS REPUBLICAN ONWARD AND UPWARD** Republican Party of Texas Chairman **Tina Benkiser** has joined forces with fellow conservative and former Ohio Secretary of State **Ken Blackwell** to run as a joint ticket to lead the **Republican National Committee**. Blackwell plans to challenge Chairman Robert M. "Mike" Duncan of Kentucky, while Benkiser is after Blackwell's fellow Buckeye, co-Chair Jo Ann Davidson. Calling herself "battle-tested" (arguably by the state GOP's regular election losses since she took charge in 2003), Benkiser said she plans to "build infrastructure in all 50 states plus territories and possessions so that those who share our philosophy can be effectively engaged in the political process." Two other current state GOP chairs – Saul Anuzis of Michigan and Katon Dawson of South Carolina – have also declared their intentions to take on Duncan, as have former Tennessee GOP chair (and Mike Huckabee's presidential campaign manager) Chip Saltsman and former Maryland lieutenant governor (and GOPAC chair) Michael Steele. *– R.W.*

› **FORGIONE CONCLUSION** Final proof that longtime Austin Independent School District Superintendent **Pat Forgione** is really leaving: An endowment fund has been named after him. On Dec. 19, the Austin Community Foundation and the advisory board of the **Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders** launched the Dr. Pascal D. Forgione Jr. College Advisor Fund, to be spent on college preparedness programs for students at the all-female Ann Richards School. Praising Forgione, who retires on June 30, Ann Richard's School advisory board Chair Ellen Richards said, "Educational opportunities are richer and more diverse because of his leadership." Contributions to the fund can be sent to the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, PO Box 684746, Austin, TX 78768. *– R.W.*

› **BUDGET-FRIENDLY FUEL CHARGE** As the cost of living gets steadily more unaffordable, there's some good news for **Austin Energy** customers. The electric utility has announced that the fuel charge – the part of the bill that pays for the coal, gas, or other source of energy – will not rise in 2009. Austin Energy bills break in two sections: 1) the fuel charge, currently 3.55 cents per kilowatt hour, and 2) the energy charge (which pays for infrastructure and operations), which stands at 6.02 cents/kwh. The energy charge had not risen since 1994, but last year, because of soaring gas prices and several one-off generation costs, the fuel cost rose from 3.04 cents/kwh; however, because natural-gas futures almost halved over the last year, the utility is able to lock in better prices. *– R.W.*


Gary Griffin

JOHN ANDERSON

› **GRIFFIN'S LAST DAYS** As former Williamson County Constable **Gary Griffin** neared his final day on the job (Dec. 31), county officials threw mud one last time, implying he'd mysteriously skipped midmonth. Griffin was defeated in the March GOP primary by Lotto winner and reserve Deputy Constable Robert Chody – the political protege of WilCo brass, angry after Griffin sued the court for slashing his budget midyear in 2005. Though bloggers celebrated the demise of Griffin's police career, he began training in December to be a senior sergeant in Travis County Precinct 3. Possibly getting wind that Griffin's prospects had brightened, officials aired nebulous "concerns" in the Dec. 19 *Round Rock Leader*. "Speculation … swirled in county government circles" that officials "were not sure if Griffin and his deputy constables had or had not abandoned their jobs," the paper reported. Griffin explained that three of four of his deputies were on sick or family leave – not a strain for other precincts employing enough deputies, as his once had – but that the work was getting done nonetheless. Indeed, there was no real crisis, as Justice of the Peace Dain Johnson admitted. "WilCo tried to sabotage my future in Travis County, but they didn't succeed," Griffin told the *Chronicle*.

– Patricia J. Ruland

NEWS

City to Firefighters No more talks

There's still no love lost between City Hall and the **Austin Firefighters Association**, whose members voted in November to reject a proposed new contract negotiated over the last several months. In response, City Manager **Marc Ott** concluded the city had met its "statutory obligation" for negotiations (under laws governing meet-and-confer relationships between management and unions) and that he would recommend to the City Council "that we do not engage in negotiations in the near future." In the meantime, employee relations will be governed by state **civil service laws**, as has been the case since Sept. 30, when the last contract expired.

That's where things stood as of Monday, Dec. 22, when the AFA submitted a lengthy letter to Ott attempting to explain the contract rejection and to "determine what will be required by both the City and Association side to continue the bargaining process and solve the **hiring process issues**." According to the letter, signed by AFA Secretary-elect **Bob Nicks** and joined by several other firefighters, the contract rejection reflected the membership belief that it was neither in "the best interests of the members … [and] not in the interests of the community." The letter says the contract was rejected for "non-monetary reasons" (it would have increased pay and benefits) and more specifically summarizes the differences between the members and the city over the hiring process for new recruits. According to the letter, the members believe the city's hiring process threatens the department's readiness standards, and they charge that the process has occasionally been politicized for some unspecified recruits. The union says it will not agree to changes in the hiring process unless the city commits to "strict enforcement of existing department validated training standards." The letter insists that should negotiations resume, the union "will NOT be asking for more compensation."

Asked for a response, Assistant City Manager **Mike McDonald** said Ott and his staff met with the letter-writers to discuss the matter, but with no intention to resume negotiations. "We don't agree with some of the statements in the letter," said McDonald, "but right now we've got an economic crisis that takes priority. We negotiated in good faith for 7½ months, and we reached a tentative agreement, but the members voted to reject that agreement. We have fulfilled our statutory obligation, and now we have to turn our attention to this economic crisis." McDonald said the negotiations were not, as the union letter charges, conducted in a "hostile and negative tone."

web extra

The letter from the Austin Firefighters Association to City Manager Marc Ott is posted with this story online at **austinchronicle.com**.

Lack of **minority hiring** at the Austin Fire Department has been a contentious issue for many years, as the department remains overwhelmingly white and male. The letter complains that the union has been unfairly characterized as "white guys who want no change." McDonald said he believes that charge refers largely to media coverage but that city management does want hiring flexibility to help diversify the department. But he rejected any notion that the city has been or would be "lowering standards." "We have not lowered any standards," McDonald insisted. "In fact, where there was any question, we strengthened the standards."

If negotiations are not resumed, civil service law will govern firefighters' employment through the next fiscal year.

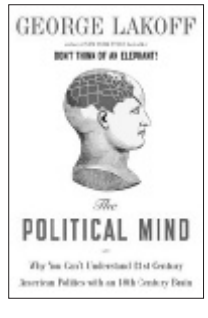
– Michael King

res publica FOR MORE DETAILS AND EVENTS, SEE **COMMUNITY LISTINGS, P.56.**

THURSDAY 01

NEW YEAR'S DAY CLOSINGS As much as you want to, you simply cannot go to the following places today (but they'll reopen tomorrow): City Hall, city of Austin libraries, the Austin Nature and Science Center, and city museums. Also, no one's going to pick up your garbage today – that service resumes tomorrow, as well. Guess you'll just have to stay inside with all your empty Champagne bottles and nurse that hangover. **www.cityofaustin.org**.

FRIDAY 02



PEOPLE UNITED
Cognitive linguist **George Lakoff** discusses his newest book, *The Political Mind: Why You Can't Understand 21st-Century American Politics With an 18th Century Brain*. *1pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM.*

SATURDAY 03

YELLERDAWG/SATURDAY SAGES DEMOCRATS MEETING *11am. Tres Amigos, 1801 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 327-1776.*

SUNDAY 04



BULL CREEK HIKE
Check out the habitat of the endangered golden-cheeked warbler; see **www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/onlineregistration/ecowebevents.cfm** for details and registration. *1:30-5pm. Free.*

ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN hosts a burning bowl ceremony to start the new year off right. *10am. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 835-9008. Free.* **www.esoa.org**.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM features special guest **Sherri Greenberg** of the LBJ School of Public Affairs; she'll discuss the speaker race and the upcoming Texas legislative session. *11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168.* **www.austinuu.org**.



TRINIDAD is a new documentary by local filmmakers PJ Raval and Jay Hodges about the evolution of Trinidad, Colo., from a Wild West outpost to the "sex change capital of the world." Tonight's screenings benefit the **Transgender Education Network of Texas**. *5 & 7:30pm. Alamo Ritz, 320 E. Sixth. $8.50.* **www.originalalamo.com**.

TUESDAY 06

CHICAS VERDES welcomes green ladies to the first monthly meeting of the year. *11:45am. Mr. Natural South, 2414-A South Lamar.*

DEMOCRATIC MEETING EXTRAVAGANZA
Three local Dem organizations are meeting today: Capital Area Progressive Democrats, *AFL-CIO, 1106 Lavaca, 5:30pm*; Capital Area Asian American Democrats, *First Chinese BBQ, 10901 N. Lamar, 6:30pm*; Stonewall Democrats, *Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 7:30pm.*

ENGAGE SPEAKER SERIES Local experts discuss how to bring the discussion of poverty in Central Texas to the forefront. Isn't the truest test of a country's prosperity how well the poorest live? *7:30am. Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones. $25 ($20, members).* **www.leadershipaustin.org/programs/engage**.

SIERRA CLUB meets tonight to discuss the local chapter's priorities for the 81st legislative session, set to begin next week. *7pm. TSTA Building, 316 W. 12th.* **www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin**.

THURSDAY 08

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISOR PUBLIC FORUM
The six candidates for the city Neighborhood Planning & Zoning Department's neighborhood adviser position will answer your questions today – but you must submit them by *Jan. 4* to **john.beasley@ci.austin.tx.us**.

New School Could Serve an Added Purpose



JOHN ANDERSON

Pat Forgione

Austin Independent School District's new Southwest middle school on Slaughter Lane is intended to cut classroom overcrowding for grades six through eight. Now Superintendent **Pat Forgione** proposes using it to temporarily relieve overcrowding in elementary schools in the area.

Instead of opening a regular middle school this fall, Forgione suggests a radical plan to set up an intermediate center for grades five through six in the 2009-2010 academic year. This proposal would include all sixth-graders in the school's attendance zone, plus all the fifth-graders from **Clayton Elementary** and any fifth-graders from other schools in the attendance zone who wish to transfer to the new middle school campus early. While this is an unusual and short-term solution, Forgione explained, "We realize that the opening of the Southwest middle school offers unique opportunities to address problems created by this area's rapid growth."

Overcrowding relief for the area's elementaries is an urgent concern, since Mills Elementary is at 135% capacity while Clayton is currently at 113% and has no room for extra construction or portables. However, the intermediate plan is only intended as a stop-gap solution. In 2010, elementary overcrowding will be relieved by the new elementary in the Meridian subdivision: The new middle school would start taking sixth and seventh grades, finally becoming a full sixth through eighth grade middle school in 2011.

Whether or not the AISD board of trustees adopts this proposal, it will not affect the new middle school's proposed attendance zone, presented by the citizens' **Facility Use and Boundary Task Force** to the trustees on Dec. 15. After months of discussion, the task force settled on what it calls Plan 1.1A, which has been ferociously opposed by Mills parents, who fear the plan would slice their community in half (see "School Boundaries: Please All, Please None," Nov. 28) by sending 57% of Mills' graduating students to the new middle school and 43% to Small Middle School.

The trustees will take public testimony on both issues on Jan. 12 and start discussions on Jan. 20, before making final decisions on Jan. 26. That, board Chair **Mark Williams** explains, gives parents time to make informed decisions about school choices before the transfer process begins on Feb. 7. Whatever the board decides, he does not expect everyone will be happy with the final boundary selection. "It's a big school," he said, "but Southwest Austin is growing really fast, and there are too many kids for [it]." *– Richard Whittaker*

7-8am. One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd. #325. **www.ci.austin.tx.us/planning**.

ONGOING

AUSTIN ROUNDUP This local nonprofit hosts an annual conference later this month for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered members of Alocoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon. See **www.austinroundup.com** for details on how to participate. *Jan. 30-Feb. 1. Omni Hotel Southpark, 4140 Governor's Row.*

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING & FREE MULCH Put your Christmas tree at the curb on recycle pickup day, and the city will turn it into mulch to be given away free to anyone who wants it. If your tree is taller than 6 feet, you should cut it in half; if you don't have curbside pickup, bring your tree to the Zilker Park Polo Fields *Jan. 3-4 or Jan. 10.* Free mulch pickup (also at the Zilker Polo Fields) begins soon, but the exact date depends on weather and other factors – consult **www.cityofaustin.org/parks/events.htm** or call 311 before you head out there. **www.cityofaustin.org/sws/xmastree.htm**.

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY Learn about the many functions and operating procedures of the Austin Police Department. The next session starts Feb. 10 and meets on *Tuesdays, 6:45-9:30pm*. For more info or an application, visit the APD website: **www.cityofaustin.org/police**, call *854-4989*, or e-mail **vincente.galloway@co.travis.tx.us**.

COATS FOR CUBS is accepting real fur – be it a coat, trim, or other type of clothing – to be used as bedding for orphaned or injured wildlife. From now through April, you may drop off your furs at Buffalo Exchange (just tell them they're for Coats for Cubs). *Buffalo Exchange, 2904 Guadalupe, 480-9925.* **www.humanesociety.org/coatsforcubs**.

WINTER DONATIONS With temperatures getting lethal, it's time to remember those without protection from the elements. New or gently used blankets, jeans, and coats are needed. Go online or call for details. *Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, 500 E. Seventh, 305-4174.* **www.frontsteps.org**.

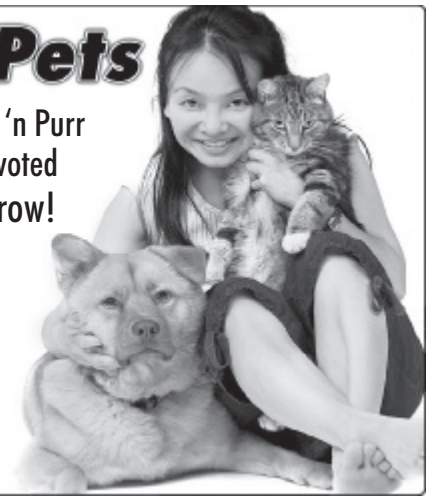
We LOVE Your Pets

And they love us! So bring them in to Bark 'n Purr Pet Center and find out why we've been voted Best of Austin for EIGHT years in a row!

Locally owned. Serving Austin for more than 50 years.

Bark 'n Purr PET CENTER

4604 Burnet Road
(1 block north of 45th St.)
512-452-3883
www.barknpurr.com



RECYCLE YOUR TREE

RECYCLE THIS AD: Cut out ornament to hang on your tree.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

PAY-AS-YOU-THROW CURBSIDE COLLECTION STARTING DECEMBER 26

Set your tree at the curb by 6:30 a.m. on your yard trimmings collection day. Remove all ornaments, lights, decorations and the stand; only the tree itself can be recycled. ***Trees six feet or taller must be cut in half.***

ZILKER PARK DROP OFF DATES

Polo Field, West of Barton Springs Pool

SATURDAY, **DECEMBER 28, 2008** (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
SATURDAY, **JANUARY 3, 2009** (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
SUNDAY, **JANUARY 4, 2009** (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
SATURDAY, **JANUARY 10, 2009** (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 3-1-1
OR VISIT AUSTINRECYCLES.COM.

CITY OF AUSTIN, SOLID WASTE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE SOLID WASTE SERVICES



Top 10 State Stories

BY LEE NICHOLS AND RICHARD WHITTAKER

JANA BIRCHUM

1) **Obama-(Tex)Mania** Technically, this started in Austin back around Feb. 23, 2007, with the massive Auditorium Shores rally. But through the Hillary Clinton/Barack Obama debate at UT, the rally at the Capitol, and the seemingly endless stream of volunteers around the nation – Austin decided, "Yes, we can."

2) **Your Gerrymander Looks Ill** House Democratic Caucus Leader Jim Dunnam thought it would take another couple of electoral cycles, but somehow state Democrats made three straight elections of gains, taking 74 House seats in November. Republicans were wondering why keeping power felt so much like defeat.

3) **Your Other Gerrymander Is Just Fine** "The monster that was created to produce the result that has occurred tonight has in fact produced the result that occurred tonight," said Democrat Larry Joe Doherty, after pouring $1.2 million – including $100,000 of his own money – into the Tom DeLay-gerrymandered Congressional District 10 and still losing to incumbent Michael McCaul. The Texas GOP actually regained a delegate and nearly took out Waco's Chet Edwards.

4) **DPS Raked Over Coals** Insufficient security allowed an arsonist to set fire to the first residence in June. Fortunately, the Perry family was not home – but for the Texas Department of Public Safety, the timing couldn't have been worse, as the Sunset Commission had just delivered a scathing review. DPS leader Col. Tommy Davis decided it was a good time to retire.

5) **Hurricanes Gustav and Ike** Austin barely suffered a glancing blow from the storms but opened its doors to coastal evacuees. Then the UT board of regents decided to lay off 3,800 employees at the UT Medical Branch at Galveston, turning a disaster into a tragedy.

6) **Ta-Ta to the Titty Tax** It's not Texas without gung-ho puritans screaming that a little bit of flesh will be the end of civilization. But when lawmakers levied a $5 surcharge every time naked nipples and booze were in the same room, the courts called it an unconstitutional tax on content, leaving the pols nothing to cover their embarrassment.

7) **Harris County Turns Blue** Despite the best efforts of Paul Bettencourt (see "Top 10 Election Gaffes," at right), the once rock-solid Republican Harris County got caught in the tide of Obamamania, as Houston Democrats flexed their muscles. Dems were the top vote-getters in 72 of 106 races, and the formerly all-GOP district court judgeships went 21-4 to the donkeys.

8) **We'd Rather Just Forget Bush Ever Happened** When it was announced that SMU would host the new George W. Bush presidential library, 28 current and retired bishops signed a protest saying, "Linking [Bush's] presidency with a university bearing the Methodist name is utterly inappropriate." In June, a group of Methodist theologians launched the "What Would John Wesley Do?" website to organize against the library.

9) **Kicking Out the Two-Step** Texas has never seen turnout like it did for this year's primaries, which also meant unprecedented scrutiny on the Democrats' hybrid daytime primary/nighttime caucus presidential nomination system. It seemed to work fine since 1976, but after Clinton won the day and Obama took the night, it nearly caused an insurrection at the state convention. Sen. Royce West, D-Dallas, is designated fixer.

10) **Jockeying for 2010** As of press time, the buzz was that U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison will mount a 2010 interparty challenge to Gov. Rick Perry, and a line was forming to take Hutchison's seat. On the Democratic side, maybe Houston Mayor Bill White and definitely Comptroller John Sharp; GOP side, former Secretary of State Roger Williams and current Texas Railroad Commissioner Elizabeth Ames Jones are definite, as is fellow Railroad Commissioner Michael Williams. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and state Sen. Florence Shapiro are floating.

Top 10 Local Stories

1) **Obama Victorious** It happened everywhere, but it was especially fun here. See "Top 10 State Stories," at left.

2) **Ott Ascends** The new city manager was his own story and the end of an era: Toby Futrell's. See "Top 10 City Council Stories," p.17.

3) **Mansion Burns** We were so used to seeing it, we can't believe it's gone. See "Top 10 Public-Safety Stories," p.20.

4) **Budget Tanks** With the foundering economy, Austin teeters, especially at City Hall. See "Top 10 City Council Stories," p.17.

5) **Lege Scrambled** Dems made new gains, and Speaker Tom Craddick watches his back. See "Top 10 State Stories," at left.

6) ***Statesman* Shingled** What if they put up a "For Sale" sign, and nobody's buying? See "Media Watch," p.18.

7) **Bush Bushed** Crawling back to Texas, Crawford calls him home. See "Top 10 State Stories," at left.

8) **Women Rising** Who you gonna call? District Attorney Rosemary Lehmberg or Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr? See "Top 10 Public-Safety Stories," p.20.

9) **Enviro Alerts** Good news: new energy initiatives and single-stream recycling. Bad news: Solid Waste bungling and implacable drought. See "Top 10 Environmental Stories," p.18.

10) **Domain Defended** A bitter rhetorical battle ended in a draw: The deal stayed a deal, but council nixed future retail subsidies. See "Top 10 Developing Stories," p.19.

Top 10 Election Gaffes

1) **If You Can't Legislate, Litigate** State Sen. Kim Brimer, R-Fort Worth, decided it was easier to fight through the courts to keep Democrat Wendy Davis off the ballot than to face her on the stump. The result? Davis hung tight and took the seat with 50% of the vote.

2) **Primary Madness** As in any family feud, picking a candidate gets mean, fast. For the Democrats, Austin Rep. Dawnna Dukes and challenger Brian Thompson threatened to sue and countersue over each other's TV ads, while former Rep. Glen Maxey charged Travis Co. Tax Assessor-Collector Nelda Wells Spears with all manner of incompetence in his unsuccessful attempt to oust her. Meanwhile in House District 52, Republican Bryan Daniels smeared adversary Dee Hobbs as a gun hater. And that was only March.

3) **Big "L" vs. Small "l"** Party Libertarians thought they could poach votes from U.S. Rep. Ron Paul's free-market-friendly revolution. Then their own presidential candidate, Bob Barr, upset Paul by offering him the party's vice presidential nomination – after he had already rejected the top slot. The eternal contrarian snubbed both Libertarians and his own GOP by endorsing Constitution Party ("pro-life, pro-gun, pro-American") hopeful Chuck Baldwin.

4) **Dead Air** When most people want to become a YouTube sensation, they film a sleepy cat or take a wicked nut shot. Sen. Kirk Watson went to all the effort of getting booked on MSNBC's *Hardball With Chris Matthews*, then blanked out in prime time when asked to name any of Sen. Barack Obama's legislative achievements.

5) **Go Steelers, er, Packers** Even his worst enemies would never accuse Sen. John McCain of using his time as a prisoner of war for political advantage. That is, right up to the moment when he changed his story about reciting the starting lineup of the Green Bay Packers to his torturers to that of the Pittsburgh Steelers … because he happened to be in Pittsburgh.

6) **Sarah Palin**

7) **Bettencourt Drops Ball** While everyone else predicted record turnout for the November election, Harris Co. tax assessor-collector (and voter registrar) Paul Bettencourt was insisting, "The interest level in this election is not as high as people thought it would be." Then 100,000 voter-registration applications got turned in at deadline, catching the Republican flat-footed and still scrambling to process 13,000 applications on the first day of early voting.

8) **Loose Lips** John Cornyn campaign manager Rob Jesmer making conversation with Holly Shulman, spokeswoman for Democrat Rick Noriega, asked about her father's New Jersey congressional race and called the Republican incumbent in that contest "a nut." It never occurred to Jesmer that the recording of their conversation would reach the New Jersey media.

9) **Um … Never Mind** GOP House District 47 candidate Donna Keel may think the best defense is a good offense, but there are limits. In August, her brother-in-law Patrick sent Democratic incumbent Valinda Bolton an e-mail asking her not to run an ad claiming that Keel had bounced a check; that was just an unfounded rumor, he said. Um, okay, replied Bolton's campaign – easy enough, since they had never heard the rumor and had no such ad in production.

10) **Copywrong** Does copyright law mean nothing to politicians? In the spring, Discount Electronics owner Rick Culleton ran ads supporting City Council candidate Jason Meeker using photos that were actually property of photographers for *The Daily Texan* and the *Chronicle*. In fall campaign ads, John Cornyn's campaign used *Chronicle*-owned video, House candidate Tim Kleinschmidt swiped a photo from MeanRachel.com, and Rep. Michael McCaul's website helped itself to a full reprint of a Capitol Annex blog posting.

TOP 10 CITY COUNCIL STORIES

BY WELLS DUNBAR



JANA BIRCHUM

1) **As the Dais Turns** The year's most dramatic shift was the May council election, led by the symbolism of neighborhood champion Laura Morrison taking the Place 4 seat of stat-quo preserver Betty Dunkerley. Place 3's Jennifer Kim, defeated by newcomer Randi Shade, was consigned to the one-term dustbin, and the influence of Responsible Growth for Northcross crested and waned. Forum overload led to voter fatigue; when the candidates outnumber the audience, douse the lights!

2) **Happy Trails, Toby** 2008 marked the end of the Toby Futrell Era. Marc Ott entered the city manager's office in February, simultaneously inspiring hopes for a less-politicized city bureaucracy and a mass exodus of Tobyites from the premises (Chief of Staff Kristen Vassallo, Assistant City Manager Laura Huffman, human resources director Cathy Rodgers, etc. …)

3) **Clear as Mud** Would business-as-usual indeed diminish? The welter of underdiscussed, unvetted, and unpublicized decisions suggest otherwise: Austin Energy and council's whiplash of a $2.3 billion wood-burning biomass plant, fast-moving sign-offs on development contracts for the Green Water Treatment Plant and the new central library, the Austin Police Department's suddenly urgent forced blood draws on DUI suspects, the staff-initiated defiance of long-standing council opposition to a landfill expansion. Lesson: Don't blink!

4) **What Color Is the Contract?** In August, the new city manager's honeymoon came to an end when a group of Hispanic business and community leaders leaked word of their bruised feelings to the *Statesman*: The group felt disrespected when they met with Ott to discuss their concerns. Local media played the black/brown angle hard, missing the Big Green Question: Whose ox is getting gored on minority contracting? Council rallied behind its hire and celebrated "diversity." Is everybody singing?

5) **All Together Now! … Start Bailing** The most distinct contrast between Marc Ott and his predecessor was in the budget process. Futrell delivered thoroughly baked budget presentations, leaving council only crumbs for quibbling; Ott instead got councilors on board early. Alas, transparency hasn't eased recessionary decisions. The 2009 budget cuts parks maintenance and shutters branch libraries for additional hours – and with tax receipts still falling, the new year forecast ain't sunny.

6) **The Music Smokes!** Still a work in progress, the Live Music Task Force was the feel-good story of the year. While all we got was a presentation to council, there appears to be the official will supporting the chief recommendation – a new music department to promote the scene. And could there have been a more moving tableau than a capacity crowd of musicians and supporters sardined into City Hall? Chambers never smelled so strongly of tobacco.

7) **The Long Dying of Single-Member Districts** The never-ending story returns … again. There was a slim hope that council might consider proposing long-pondered geographic representation – officially dashed in the spring, when council voted 6-1 against a November charter ballot. See ya in another two years … again.

8) **Street Closures Drove Us Batty** Along with every new art festival, concert, or marathon comes closure for major thoroughfares. This year, the incessant detours came to a head when organizers of the fledgling Batfest asked to close Congress Avenue Bridge over Labor Day weekend. Businesses blanched, council balked, and the event moved one bridge west. Have we reached a limit? Maybe.

9) **NIMBYism: Not Just for the Middle Class** In a somewhat dispiriting trend, council was assailed with requests to keep the nefarious, dastardly "other" from staking a toehold in anyone's community: low-income housing on Manor Road; a home for the homeless off Highway 183, but not remote enough for the neighbors; and most lamentable, a health-care clinic – still planned – on Braker Lane.

10) **In the Dumper** Refuse generated festering council heat, as Solid Waste Services kept putting its worst foot forward. The expandable BFI landfill, the uncertain switch to single-stream recycling, the proposal (and abandonment) of new residential rate tiers during the budget, and city abandonment of plans to build its own recycling center – after sinking more than a million dollars into the project. Project 2009: Clean up this mess!

TOP 10 HUSTLE MOMENTS

Nationally and locally, it was a banner year for politics – and the *Chronicle*'s videoblogs City Hall Hustle and Hail to the Hustle were there. We've compiled the Hustle's Top 10 moments online at **austinchronicle.com/hustle**, but allow us to enumerate in print the Hust's year-end retrospective. *– W.D.*

10) **City Council Takes Their Places** A look at the Hust during the May elections.

9) **Hail to the Hustle Begins** The Hustle goes national.

8) **Travis County Dems Unite** In which Larry Joe Doherty talks webcams.

7) **Alex Jones vs. Michelle Malkin** What more can you say?

6) **John McCain's Debatable Performance** The Hust grades McCain "zero."

5) **The Hustle Suspends Its Campaign** Desperate campaigns call for desperate measures.

4) **The Financial Crisis** "Hey Merrill, manage this mayne!"

3) **John Cornyn Jacks the Hustle** Again, what more can you say?

2) **Nov. 4, 2008** Yes we can!

1) **The Hustle Lives On** A look at what's to come in '09.

Roger Beasley
SUBARU
OF GEORGETOWN
ONLY 15 MINUTES FROM AUSTIN

SUBARU

MPG AWD THE MOST FUEL-EFFICIENT ALL-WHEEL DRIVE LINEUP IN AMERICA*

2008 Impreza 2.5i Sedan
with Auto-dimming mirror with compass
$15,988 +TT&L
OR
27 MPG EST. HWY.



$199 Total due at signing
$199 PER MONTH 36 MO LEASE
MODEL 8JA, STOCK# Z3130. WITH APPROVED CREDIT. DEALER CONTRIBUTION MAY AFFECT FINAL NEGOTIATED PRICE. 36 MO LEASE, $199 TOTAL DUE AT LEASE SIGNING (NO SEC. DEPOSIT REQUIRED), 36 MONTHLY PAYMENTS, FINAL PYMT / RESIDUAL = $10,521. BASED ON 10K MI. / YR WITH $.15 PER MI. EXCESS CHARGE. MSRP $17,832. INCLUDES LEASE TAX CREDIT WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

2009 Forester 2.5x
Motor Trend's 2009 Sport/Utility of the Year™
$19,578 +TT&L
OR
26 MPG EST. HWY.



$279 Total due at signing
$279 PER MONTH 39 MO LEASE
MODEL 9FA, STOCK# Z3162. WITH APPROVED CREDIT. DEALER CONTRIBUTION MAY AFFECT FINAL NEGOTIATED PRICE. 39 MO LEASE, $279 TOTAL DUE AT LEASE SIGNING (NO SEC. DEPOSIT REQUIRED), 39 MONTHLY PAYMENTS, FINAL PYMT / RESIDUAL = $12,189. BASED ON 10K MI. / YR WITH $.15 PER MI. EXCESS CHARGE. MSRP $20,660. INCLUDES LEASE TAX CREDIT WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

#1 FASTEST GROWING SUBARU DEALER IN TEXAS!
Based on 2008 YTD Subaru retail percentage of objective for Gulf States Region.

2 YEAR 24,000 MILE Subaru Added Security Maintenance Plan
SUBARU share the love EVENT

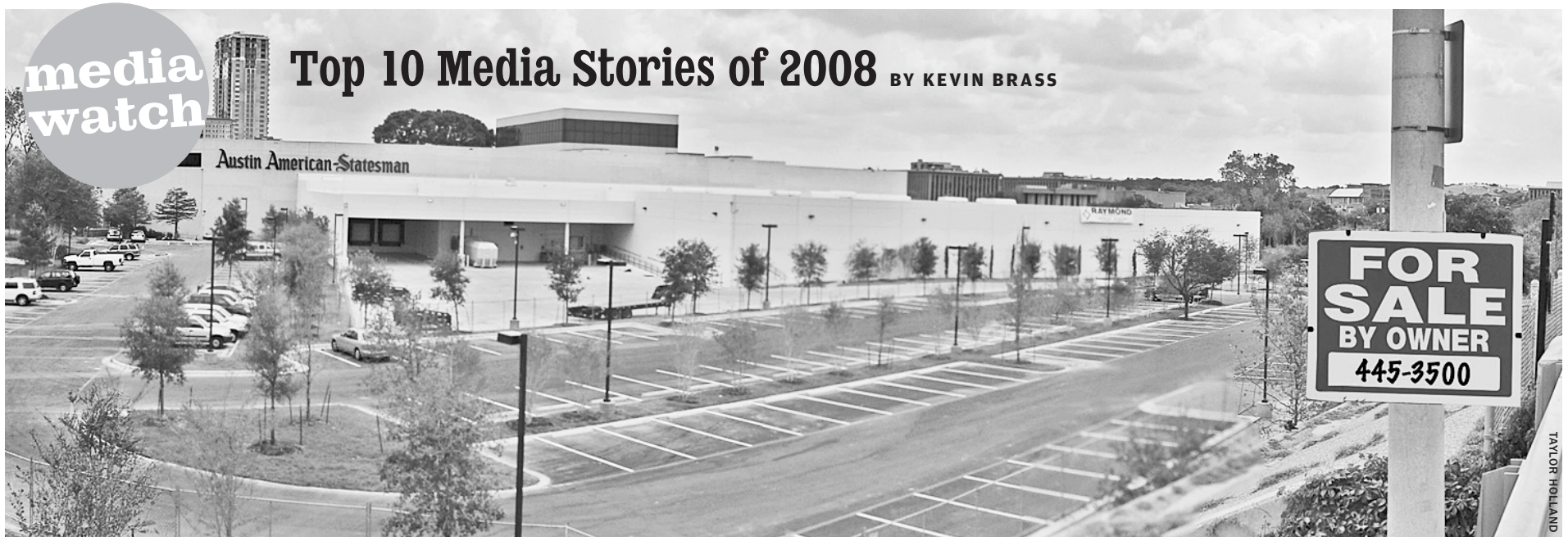
*Based on 2008 model year EPA combined estimated fuel economy for AWD and 4WD. Subaru average EPA city estimate is 18.8 mpg and highway estimate is 25.1 mpg. Actual mileage may vary. **WITH APPROVED CREDIT ON SELECT TERMS IN LIEU OF ANY OTHER OFFER. DEALER PARTICIPATION MAY AFFECT FINAL NEGOTIATED PRICE. ALL PICTURES FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY. OFFERS EXPIRE 1/5/09. OFFER VALID WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

7501 S IH-35 - EXIT 257
(512) 930-2111
Service Dept open Sat 9AM-4PM
FOR MORE SPECIALS VISIT
www.subarugeorgetown.com
SALES: M-F 8:30 - 8:00, Sat 9:00 - 8:00

media watch

Top 10 Media Stories of 2008

BY KEVIN BRASS



1) ***Statesman* Want Ad** With newspapers currently considered stinking dog turds on Wall Street, in August family-owned Cox Enterprises announced plans to sell dozens of its papers, including the *Austin American-Statesman*. As they say in the financial biz: not great timing. The economy promptly crashed, along with interest in buying newspapers. Five months later, the *Statesman* is still available to anyone willing to make the right offer … and, really, please, anyone, make an offer, any offer.

2) **Media Meltdown** Layoffs, cutbacks, financial implosions, frogs falling from the sky – among bad years, this was one of biblical proportions for media companies. The Tribune Co.'s recent bankruptcy filing was only one of several headline-grabbing disasters. By some counts, in the past two years, more than 20,000 journalists have lost their jobs.

3) **KXAN vs. Time Warner** NBC briefly disappeared from Time Warner Cable, when LIN TV, owner of local NBC affiliate KXAN, engaged the cable system in hand-to-hand combat over retransmission fees. Both launched smarmy PR campaigns, accusing each other of molesting poor downtrodden viewers. At its heart, the debate was over future payment systems, a key industry issue. Austin viewers were just happy *The Office* eventually returned.

4) **Political Bloviation** In a historic election year, rife with the weighty issues of our time, the mainstream media focused on Joe the Plumber, crazy preachers, socialism, and Sarah Palin's relative hotness. On an hourly basis, they explored new depths of shallowness, eagerly latching on to whatever miniscandal the campaigns presented. No wonder a good chunk of the populace went to the polls thinking Obama is a Muslim.

5) **Emmis Woes** As dozens of media companies struggled, none affected Austin like the plummeting fortunes of Indianapolis-based Emmis Communications. Not only has it tightened budgets at its six local radio stations – slicing into the hearts of such Austin stalwarts as KGSR-FM and KLBJ-FM – but the axe fell at Emmis-owned *Texas Monthly*, which lost 10% of its staff. By December Emmis' stock was wallowing at 50 cents a share, suggesting more cuts might loom.

6) **FCC Boobs Bounced** In one of those mostly overlooked little stories, a federal appeals court tossed a $550,000 indecency fine against CBS, for Janet Jackson's near nipple-exposing flash during halftime of the 2004 Super Bowl. No case better exemplified the silliness of the Federal Communications Commission's zealous Bush-era attempt to clean up the airwaves. The court's decision renewed hope that the new administration will steer the FCC away from its strange and costly attempt to wash out broadcasters' mouths with soap.

7) **No Need to Know** The analog era of television officially ends in February. As a run-up, broadcasters and various government agencies spent millions in 2008 trying to explain the transformation, even though only a relatively small group of people is affected (specifically, those not using cable or satellite services who don't have digital TVs). A year-

Top 10 Environmental Stories

BY DAN MOTTOLA, WITH AMY SMITH, RICHARD WHITTAKER, KATHERINE GREGOR

1) **Biomass: Got Wood?** In August, Austin Energy sought to push through council a 20-year, $2.3 billion deal for a waste-wood-burning power plant. The Nacogdoches-area plant would provide about 75,000 homes with constant "carbon-neutral" energy. Critics filled City Hall to question the lack of public input and whether AE's justifications – mainly fast-rising natural-gas prices – were well-founded. Biomass passed, so expect wood-fired electricity by 2012.

2) **HelioVolt: The Next Generation** Austin native B.J. Stanbery, founder and CEO of thin-film solar manufacturer HelioVolt, said he fought hard with board members and investors to site the company's first plant in his hometown – it opened in October on East Stassney Lane. Made mainly from metals instead of scarce refined silicon, HelioVolt's solar cells, which can be made faster and cheaper than today's panels and be integrated into buildings, may nudge solar into the mainstream.

3) **Talking Trash** In April, the city debuted its plan to send zero waste (or darn close) to landfills by 2040. The plan called for expanded recycling, more composting, incentives for reducing disposal, and more reuse. A proposed resource-recovery park or green district would be part landfill, part recycling and reclamation center, and part composting plant – but the proposed location is on city-owned land near Webberville, which raised a stink from residents and leaders there.

4) **Down in the Dumps** Avid recyclers savored that new recycling-bin smell from the gigantic new single-stream bins delivered to most Austin driveways but held their noses when they learned recyclables are being trucked to Dallas. Solid Waste Services held off building a sorting facility (after spending $1 million designing one). Waste watchdogs freaked when city staff signed an agreement in November supporting an expansion to BFI Waste Systems' Northeast Austin landfill, contrary to a 2007 City Council resolution – the investigation, and the dust, is still in the air.

5) **Pedal-Powered Progress** The city pumped up pedal efforts by updating its 10-year-old Bicycle Plan and finalizing the recommendations of the Street Smarts Task Force. In June, volunteers with Austin's Yellow Bike Project, purveyors of free bike-maintenance education and rehabbers of old bikes, moved the contents of their 30,000-square-foot warehouse headquarters off East 51st Street to their new home at the corner of East 12th and Webberville – entirely and awe-inspiringly by bike.

6) **More Power to Us** In February, the city officially said "no thanks" to an offer to partner in the construction of two new nuclear reactors at the South Texas Project, the nuke that provides about 29% of Austin's electricity. In late August, Austin Energy began to lay out its plan to meet the city's future energy needs, envisioning: a major solar farm in Webberville, aggressive energy-conservation tactics, enhanced city codes for zero-energy buildings. Look also for expansions to the city's Sand Hill Energy Center natural-gas plant, 600 megawatts of new wind power, a possible large-scale West Texas solar farm, and installations on "solar-applicable" places such as over parking lots.

7) **In Hot Water** Water shortages took a turn for the worse over the last year as local farmers watched crops – and livelihoods – go dry. Wimberley's Jacobs' Well, spring-fed by the Trinity Aquifer, went dry for the second time in recorded history, although it had continued to flow even in the Fifties' worst drought on record; the first time it petered out was only eight years ago. In December, the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District declared a critical-stage drought, with weather conditions expected to remain dry for the coming month.

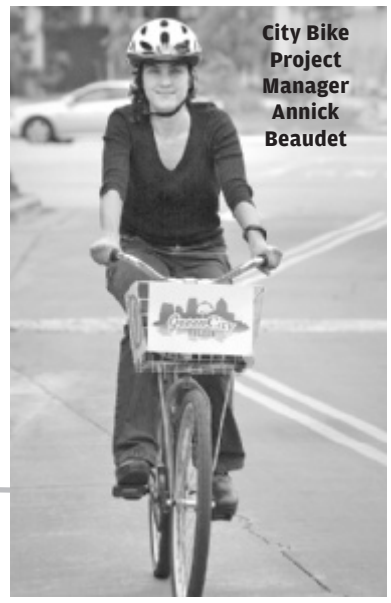
8) **Biodiesel Bust** The Texas biodiesel industry was feeling burned in 2008 thanks to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Texas Low Emission Diesel Program, introduced in 2005 and implemented Jan. 1. Designed to cut smog-forming nitrogen-oxide emissions from diesel fuels, the rule snared biodiesel, too, which, according to conflicting tests, can have 2% higher or lower NOx

long campaign of commercials, news stories, infomercials, and text crawls only served to confuse the hell out of everyone.

8) **Radio, Not** The radio industry continued to plod. No dramatic new formats. No excitement for mysteriously acronymed "HD." No love from advertisers. It was a year of layoffs and cutbacks and more Rush Limbaugh. Broadcasters did delay the Sirius-XM merger long enough to screw the satellite companies. Oh, and Mix 94.7 renewed *The JB & Sandy Morning Show*, which is what passed for big news on the local radio front.

9) **New *Statesman* Leadership** The most recognizable face of the *Austin American-Statesman*, Editor Rich Oppel, retired into the sunset, leaving behind little of the promise he brought to the paper 13 years earlier. Longtime No. 2 Fred Zipp slipped into the editor's chair and put his stamp on the job by making no major changes at the snoozing paper. The biggest shake-up could be the addition of Publisher Michael Vivio, who may push to liven up the product.

10) **KEYE Krunch** In one week, 14 staffers were jettisoned from CBS affiliate KEYE-TV, a year after the station was purchased by the same private equity firm that bought buyout-begging carmaker Chrysler. No big deal, KEYE management said. Many in the industry saw the layoffs as a sign of things to come, as TV companies around the country begin to scale back to protect diminishing profit margins.



City Bike Project Manager Annick Beaudet

JOHN ANDERSON

emissions than petroleum diesel. The rule had the practical effect of helping diminish the number of public biodiesel pumps in Austin: In 2006, the city had more than 30 – today we have just one.

9) **Bagging the Bags** City Council rejected an all-out plastic bag ban – luckily, the voluntary Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Initiative that took the ban's place made progress: 443,227 reusable bags handed out by partner stores meant 40% fewer plastic bags distributed and 20% more bags recycled in the first six months of 2008. The next big target: 50% fewer plastic bags to landfills by July 2009.

10) **Nothing to Do With Pecans** The Pecan Street Project clean-energy initiative promises to save the planet and Austin's economy at a stroke. The city provides the Austin Energy power grid and brain trust, which researchers and entrepreneurs will use to develop, test, and implement a new urban power system. With key national corporations and nonprofit Environmental Defense Fund as partners, the project aims to solve a key challenge: how to reliably, sustainably, and profitably provide "green" energy on a mass municipal scale.

Top 10 Developing Stories

BY KATHERINE GREGOR



JANA BIRCHUM

1) **Boom and Bust** The Downtown skyline was transformed by rising condo towers. Hotel, office, and multiuse projects boomed as well – until the bust. Also hard hit were Austin's construction industry and retail and restaurants banking on all those condo yups. Will the Austonian – now rising toward 55 stories with more than 180 hyperpriced units – become the signature monument to 2008 boom-boom hubris? Or will it be the near-empty block directly across Congress Avenue that lost Las Manitas and now the Marriott?

2) **Closure and Calm** Projects ensnared in neighborhood-development battles reached amicable resolutions, notably the downsizing of both the Northcross Wal-Mart and the CWS condo towers proposed for the waterfront, fought by SaveTownLake.org. Yet no fresh fights erupted in 2008. Perhaps we're finally working together better as a city to head off divisive conflicts. Then again, maybe it was the recession – or Austin just got lucky.

3) **Let's Call a Meeting!** Austinites were invited to critique the teams for Project Green (the Green Water Treatment Plant) and the new library and to shape the streetcar rail alignment, evolution of Waller Creek, and Waterfront Overlay District. We chimed in on four large combined neighborhood plans, three station-area plans for transit-oriented developments, and the I-35 makeover. We ruminated master plans for the North Burnet/Gateway area, East Riverside Corridor, Barton Springs Pool, and Downtown. Those still standing tailored vertical-mixed-use rules to every neighborhood, negotiated energy-efficient home requirements, and rewrote planned unit development code. No one process has been perfect – but the city demonstrated octopus-quality outreach.

4) **Rewriting Downtown** Since delivering the Phase One Report in January, consultant ROMA has completed a streetcar alignment recommendation and a draft multimodal transportation plan; the team is working on affordable-housing and density-bonus programs. Still in development: Downtown Austin Plan Phase Two work: an overall framework, a parks and open space plan, and individual district plans.

5) **Latest Ism Visits** Congress for the New Urbanism brought national urban-design talent, and Central Texans (including some 50 city staffers) studied better, more sustainable city-shaping. Will CNU make a long-term difference in how Austin grows? We'll see – but it was a hell of a party.

6) **Eastside Dilemma** Frustration erupted once again over the Austin Revitalization Authority's endlessly lagging Urban Renewal plan. The city's consultants declared new Eastside housing now so expensive as to make 25% affordable housing within Eastside transit-oriented developments unfeasible. Yet Eastsiders defeated two low-income housing projects: Manor Road apartments planned by the Community Partnership for the Homeless and a gated mobile-home community proposed by Mobile Loaves and Fishes. Bright spots in the middle: Chestnut Commons, Homestead Preservation District progress, and Mueller affordable homes.

7) **Brack Tract Backlash** West Austin agonized over its own redevelopment quandaries, fueling town-gown tensions. In June, the University of Texas selected a master-planning consultant (Cooper, Robertson & Partners), which is dancing a razor's edge between pleasing its client and responding to neighborhood concerns. Thus far, UT evidences little commitment to being a good Austin citizen, instead asserting its own interests over collaborative solutions.

8) **The Road to Community** Development follows roads and transit. That truism informed this year's work on updating the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization long-range plan – potentially to promote denser and more sustainable land-use – via a new Decision Tree process for regional transportation investments. Thanks to Chair Kirk Watson, CAMPO will now apply that process – including environmental, air-quality, climate-protection, and quality-of-life standards – to roads. About freakin' time!

9) **Rail Builds Steam** Two new passenger rail projects left the station: the Green Line for the Austin-Manor-Elgin corridor and the Urban Rail Circulator, aka Central Austin streetcar. Meanwhile, Texas Department of Transportation highway financing hit a black-ice pothole, due to TxDOT's little $1 billion math error. Capital Metro's Phase I Green Line proposal won a Dec. 15 yes vote from the Transit Working Group; the city of Austin proposal goes before the group Jan. 5. In the new year: proposals for more passenger rail, financing plans, voter referendums, and opening Cap Metro's Red Line.

10) **Stop Domain Subsidies Stopped** The narrowly defeated anti-Domain Proposition 2 provided the latest community snapshot of longstanding citizen mistrust of elected officials and city staff – the perception that City Hall is in bed with developers. The new city manager and council members are trying to change that dynamic, with a renewed commitment to transparency. What will it take to truly build trust?

reefer madness

Top 10 Joints

BY JORDAN SMITH



SCOTT T. SAMSON

1) **No Help for Hemp** Our favorite North Dakota farmers were back in federal court, again trying to get the Drug Enforcement Administration to butt out of plans to cultivate non-narcotic industrial hemp on family farms. Farmers Dave Monson (a veteran Republican state lawmaker) and Wayne Hauge (a seed dealer and certified public accountant) argue that the feds have no jurisdiction over intrastate cultivation of the non-narcotic cousin of the evil weed marijuana. The DEA argues that although portions of the cannabis plant are exempted from federal regulation, hemp is still cannabis, and under its purview, hemp is dope, and dope is illegal. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is expected to rule on the matter early this year.

2) **APD Finally Cites and Releases** More than a year after state lawmakers affirmed a police officer's right to allow certain low-level misdemeanants to be cited instead of jailed, Austin Police Chief Art Acevedo finally announced that the Austin Police Department too would implement the "cite-and-release" law. The law does not change the possible penalties for a list of minor offenses – including possession of up to 4 ounces of pot, driving under a suspended license, and minor graffiti and theft – but does allow police to issue only a citation. The Travis Co. Sheriff's Office helped craft the law and implemented it in September 2007 – it took APD a year to get with the program.

3) **U.S. Elects Admitted Pot Smoker** Yes, it's true: Barack Obama actually inhaled. And snorted some coke too, back in the day. Now he's president.

4) **Weed Wins Big** In both Michigan and Massachusetts, where marijuana reform issues had prominent places on the ballot, reform scored bigger on Election Day than did the former toking president-elect. Voters made Michigan the first Midwestern state (13th in all) to legalize medi-pot for ill patients with 63% of the vote, 6 points more than went to Obama. In Massachusetts, 65% of voters approved a measure to decriminalize adult possession of up to an ounce of pot; 62% went for Obama. Reformers say the big wins mean that pot reform is no longer a fringe issue.

5) **Pot Arrests Peak ... Again** The War on Drugs hit another low in September with the FBI's annual crime stats: In 2007, law enforcement agencies arrested 775,137 pot smokers for possession. In contrast, police last year made a total of 597,447 arrests for all violent crimes – including murder, rape, and robbery.

6) **And Walters Chases Unicorns** The FBI stats didn't impress drug czar John Walters (head of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy). Last September, he declared: "The fact is today, people don't go to jail for possession of marijuana." Finding someone in jail for first-time possession is like "finding a unicorn," he said, and offered a steak dinner to anyone who proved him wrong. Walters' pronouncement unleashed a flood of online responses, including lists of folks who had, indeed, been to the pokey for first-time possession. Steak still awaited.

7) **Bogart Holder** Although Obama has said he favors eliminating mandatory-minimum sentencing for nonviolent drug offenses, he

Top 10 Public-Safety Stories BY JORDAN SMITH WITH RICHARD WHITTAKER

1) **The Fire This Time** It was a bad year for the Texas Department of Public Safety. On June 8, the night the Governor's Mansion burned, the sole officer on duty and his semi-functional video-surveillance cameras didn't see, and thus didn't stop, the cargo-pants arsonist who did the damage. After much recrimination, longtime agency leader Col. Tommy Davis stepped down. Finally, a Deloitte Consulting review concluded that DPS' clumsy bureaucracy is in serious need of a top-to-bottom makeover.

2) **The Light Goes on at TYC** The 2007 revelations of widespread sexual and physical abuse throughout the Texas Youth Commission's facilities triggered sweeping reforms, the closure of several facilities, and the hiring of an independent ombudsman. In October, Gov. Rick Perry decided matters had improved sufficiently to end the conservatorship and bank on new Executive Commissioner Cheryln Townsend. What's next? Sen. Chuy Hinojosa wants more time to let the reforms work; Sen. John Whitmire says start over with a new, integrated juvenile parole and prison system.

3) **APD Wants to Suck Your Blood** Midyear, new police Chief Art Acevedo announced that the Austin Police Department would no longer take no for an answer on DWIs. He instituted a "no refusal" policy, securing instant search warrants to give police (a paid phlebotomist at the Travis County Jail) the authority to draw blood to confirm intoxication. The policy debuted on Halloween weekend over public protest – just something about the government getting inside a person's skin. But the courts have found it legal, meaning that there's just one way to avoid the invasion: Don't drive drunk.

4) **Judge Hervey Chooses Integrity** The reputation of Texas' criminal justice system is in the shitter, thanks in part to Court of Criminal Appeals Presiding Judge Sharon Keller, who arbitrarily closed the court late last year, foreclosing a death row inmate's appeal and ensuring his death. CCA Judge Barbara Hervey stepped forward, organizing the Criminal Justice Integrity Unit, made up of law enforcement, lawyers, and lawmakers who have agreed that we must improve the system. Whether the unit's good intentions will have real political stroke remains to be seen.

5) **About Those Convictions** At press time, the total number of exonerees from Texas was 38, making the state far and away the leader in wrongful convictions. Thanks to the leadership of the Innocence Project of Texas and Dallas Co. District Attorney Craig Watkins, years of injustice are beginning to be undone. How high the number will climb depends in part on whether the Lege moves to make sure that cases without DNA evidence find meaningful ways to vet innocence claims in courts.

6) **Suspicion of Murder** In September, former Georgetown Police Sgt. Jimmy Fennell Jr. pled guilty to charges of kidnapping and improper sexual conduct with a person in custody – a woman who had called police to her home – and got 10 years. Fennell is best known as the man engaged to Stacey Stites of Bastrop, murdered in 1996. Rodney Reed was convicted and sentenced to die for Stites' death, but his supporters and family have long said Fennell, her fiancé, was a far more compelling suspect and now point to his conviction as additional circumstantial evidence.

7) **Female Fire Chief** On Nov. 20, City Council confirmed Rhoda Mae Kerr as Austin's first female fire chief. Kerr comes from a firefighting family and served for 20 years in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., before taking over as Little Rock, Ark., chief in 2004. Her plate will be full come Feb. 2 – prominently, a charge from the council to diversify the overwhelmingly white Austin Fire Department. The monochromatic department took another hit this fall when the department's only African-American female firefighter, Nona Allen, filed suit against unequal city facilities for female firefighters.

8) **Krusee Cleared** Retiring State Rep. Mike Krusee, R-Round Rock, avoided too many drunken lawmaking jokes when in November Williamson County Attorney Jana Duty dropped drunken-driving charges against him. Krusee was pulled over in April and failed a field sobriety test, but Duty concluded that there was insufficient evidence of intoxication for a jury. Attorney General Greg Abbott initially allowed the Department of Public Safety to withhold a dash-cam video of Krusee's arrest; released after his dismissal, the video appeared inconclusive – lucky for Krusee that the WilCo fuzz doesn't employ a 24/7 "no refusal" policy.

disappointed many by tapping former Clinton-era Department of Justice No. 2 Eric Holder to become attorney general. While U.S. attorney for D.C., Holder advocated increased penalties for pot possession and sought to make pot-selling a felony. Under Holder's (defeated) 1996 plan, a first-time pot offender would've received an 18-month sentence, while possession with intent to distribute would've netted five years. What position he'll take as attorney general on drug prosecutions – and on pot-law enforcement in medi-pot states – remains to be seen.

8) **Supremes Leave Medi-Pot Alone** The U.S. Supreme Court in December refused to hear the appeal of a California court ruling concluding that federal pot prohibition does not pre-empt the state's medi-pot law. The 2007 ruling came for a Garden Grove man who was charged with pot possession even though he was a registered medi-pot patient. The charge was dismissed, but the police refused to return his seized pot – the court ordered the police to return the stash under state law. The Supremes allowed that interpretation to stand – which should help strengthen enforcement of the medi-mari laws in 13 states where it is legal.

9) **U.S. Ranks First in Drug Use** We're No. 1! Even before the Summer Olympics, the U.S. was already taking home the gold – for drug use. When it comes to tobacco, pot, and cocaine, the U.S. far outpaces the rest of the world, the World Health Organization reported in June in the first cross-national drug-use study. According to the report, 42% of Americans said they'd smoked pot – far outpacing even the Netherlands, at 19.8%. The U.S. also took the gold for coke use, with 16.2% of respondents having tried the drug – New Zealand came in a distant second at 4.3%.

10) **John Forté Granted Clemency** In November, President George W. Bush granted clemency for hip-hop artist John Forté, sentenced in 2001 under mandatory-minimum sentencing to 14 years for cocaine possession. Forté was tapped for possession with intent to distribute about $1.4 million in liquid cocaine, of which he insisted he was unaware. With the help of Carly Simon (with whom Forté has performed) and Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah (a prolific songwriter), Bush agreed to release him.



The Governor's Mansion charcoaled

JOHN ANDERSON

9) **Changing the Union Guard** In a stunning election victory, 23-year Austin Police veteran Sgt. Wayne Vincent pummeled union Vice President Cpl. Wuthipoing "Tank" Tantaksinanukij to become new president of the officers' union, the Austin Police Association. The vote was the first since longtime President Mike Sheffield retired in 2006. Officers say the rank and file, especially officers on patrol, are uncomfortable with policy changes of new APD Chief Art Acevedo. Tantaksinanukij was seen as too friendly with management, in particular Acevedo.

10) **Contractual Differences** In another stunning vote, firefighters rejected a new employment contract that would have given raises and committed the city to funding retirees' pensions. Members balked at a provision allowing incoming Chief Kerr broader authority to recruit minority firefighters, saying the clause would weaken hiring standards and increase risk. Civil service law will fill the void, and city officials declined to return to the bargaining table. Meanwhile, Austin/Travis Co. EMS workers approved their first-ever employment contract with the city (a result of their securing meet-and-confer bargaining rights during the 2007 legislative session), which took effect Oct. 1.

Fall/Winter
SALE
All Sales Final
In Stock Only



Selected Toys and Gifts 50% OFF



Selected Outerwear 20-30% OFF





30-50% OFF Selected shoes

ellington and HoBo Bags and purses 10-15% OFF

35-50% OFF Men's & Women's Fall and Winter sportswear

Selected Daypacks 25-50% OFF

Whole Earth Provision Co.
2410 San Antonio St.reet 478-1577 • 1014 North Lamar, 476-1414
South Lamar @ WESTGATE, 899-0992
www.WholeEarthProvision.co

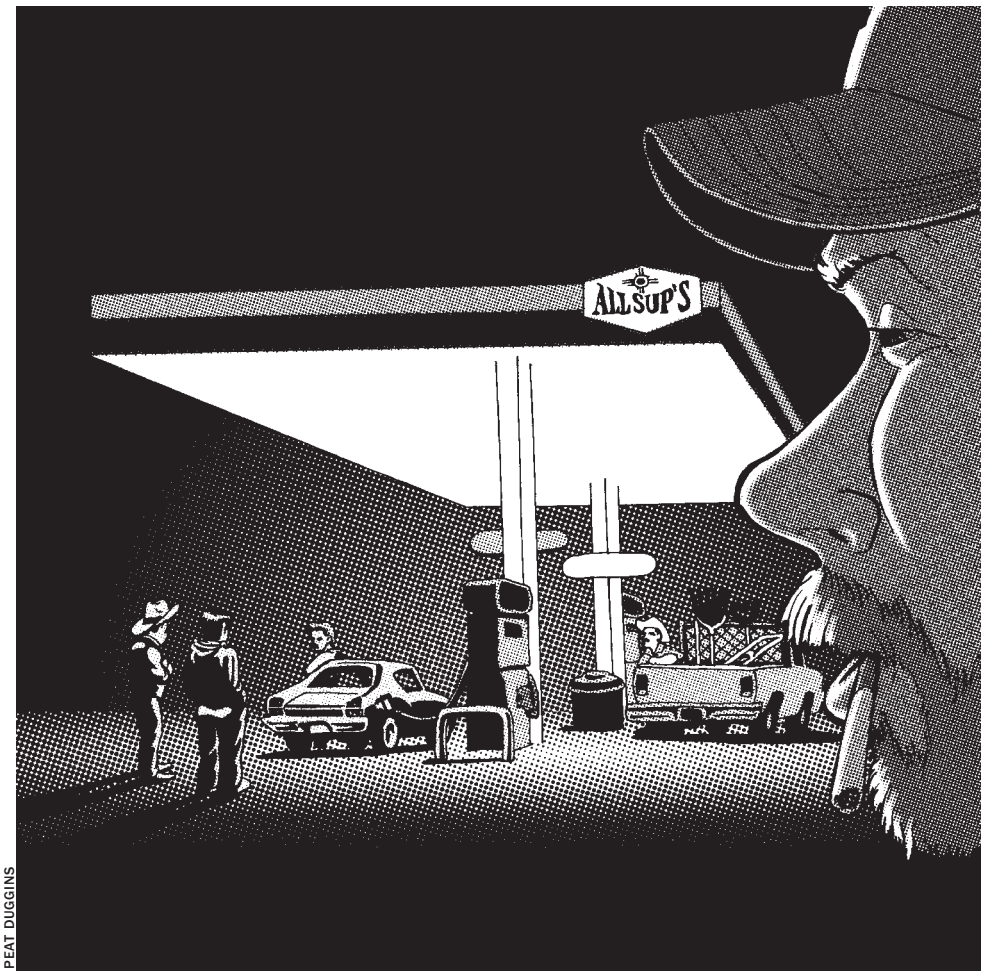
NEW YEAR'S EVE



BEST DEAL IN AUSTIN!
NO COVER
PARTY FAVORS
MIDNIGHT CHAMPAGNE TOAST
Flying Saucer Draught Emporium
beerknurd.com
The Triangle, 47th at Lamar 454-PINT

A Day's Ride, 2008

BY MICHAEL VENTURA



PEAT DUGGINS

Some months ago, I was startled by hard knocks at my door. I knew by the knock that I didn't like whomever was knocking. Opened the door to a nervy guy in expensive duds. "The apartment manager told me that's your car." He pointed to my '69 Chevy Malibu. I nodded yes and said, "Never." "What?" "You want to buy it. I'll never sell it." "I'll pay well." "Never." "Never say never. You may change your mind; take my card." "I don't need your card." He wasn't used to taking no for an answer from one he judged a social inferior. He held out his card. I just let him stand there like that. When he realized my no meant no, he walked off without another word. I thought: Never say never? That can't be right. "Never" is an important word. Each of us should have some things we'll say "never" to, and we'd best know well what they are.

(Told Danny the episode, with my concluding thought, and he said something I liked: "*Never* exists in this world.")

My Chevy draws all kinds. I was packing the car for a day's ride to Austin to see old friends and go to the *Chronicle*'s holiday bash. Three young men and one older, Latinos, gathered. "Hey," I greeted them, smiling a little. The elder said: "We're just waiting till you start 'er. We wanna hear the engine. Still got the 307?" "No. When they switched to unleaded, the additives fucked up the 307. This engine's a 350." We talked of this and that, then I started her up. They smiled wide when they heard that engine. There's nothing like a 350 in good shape. I headed for Austin.

Not long ago, a petulant reader chastised me for my "most prideful possession," my "damn stupid car." I sympathize with his crankiness. We're all cranky about something or other. But everywhere I go – and I go everywhere – people who wouldn't otherwise speak to me are drawn to the car. We talk about the car and cars in general, then sometimes we talk of other stuff. Sometimes we go for coffee and exchange life stories. That's not why I'll never sell the car. You don't sell something you love. But the car is kind of my passport to America. People who might not want anything to do with me look at that car and know there's something about America we agree on – something embodied in a '69 Chevy Malibu – so we talk. In my profession, that's very helpful.

There's a yellow legal pad on the seat. I scribbled notes as I drove Route 84: 2008 – its most remarkable event was that the American system failed so completely that right-wing Republicans quasi-nationalized housing, banking, insurance, and (as we speak) auto manufacturing. A centrist Democrat will quasi-nationalize health care and do a 21st century New Deal to employ thousands. For a year, the stock market's gone up only when the government acts, which means this market isn't the market that was. What to call all this? It's certainly not capitalism, and it's not how dictionaries define socialism. But the rules of the American game have changed utterly, a fundamental reorganization has begun, and nobody really knows what the new rules are or if they'll work or if they're even rules.

I stopped at dark in Coleman, Texas. Gassed up at the Allsup's. Four young laborers climbed out of their beat-up pickup to talk about my Chevy. Two had smart eyes. Two had most of their teeth; one, just a few; another, none I could see. My street sense didn't trust one. The others I liked. The world I call "the world" is not the world they call "the world." With their manual skills, tattered clothes, rural accents, and laborers' manners, their world is the only world that will have them. But they're vigorous. Laugh readily. And dig the sound of a 350. (A friend's family reunions are near here. He says most local youth do drugs. Lots.)

I checked into a motel and went to a steak house down the road. At the next table, two clean-cut, soft-spoken guys, roughly the age of the four I'd just met, spoke of their fraternity. The violence of hazing. The guy "who beat me up." The kid hadn't protested. Said no one does. Said the university knows of the bullying and allows it. The lesson these frat boys seem to be learning is how to take shit. The frat bullies are learning how to dish it. Both lessons are important in an education for the corporate world they spoke of joining. They're home for the holidays. Coleman no doubt considers them the best of Coleman. But in their faces was a brokenness – as though already they'd accepted that they would not be the men they'd hoped to be.

Those four laborers with missing teeth – they did not look beaten down and certainly didn't look like guys who'd accept bullying. Who knows but that they might do well, by their lights, in Obama's new New Deal? And who knows but that the frat boys won't? The old rules are gone, the new rules don't yet exist, and it's anybody's ball game.

Back at the Allsup's, I bought a six-pack for the motel room. (The friendly cashier didn't have all his teeth either.) In the parking lot, a guy in hunting garb, cigarette hanging from his lips, was at the pay phone. You don't see people at pay phones much anymore. Finishing his call and snapping his butt stub onto the pavement, he went to his car, parked beside mine: a small tin can, its entire right side stoved in, duct tape covering the cracks.

He said, "Looks bad, don't it?" Smiled. Missing some teeth. I nodded yeah, smiling. "Looks so bad, people wave when they pass me now. They didn't used to wave. Guess there's some good in anything," he grinned, very knowingly. We got in our cars. He started his. It made a tinny sound, like, "Do we hafta?" I started mine, and I couldn't help that a V-8 350 just naturally roars. The guy and I looked at each other from behind our wheels, and he cracked up, laughing so hard he couldn't light his cigarette. There are traditions of secret Hasids, secret Buddhas, secret Sufis. I felt I'd met a man who might qualify. His laughter was genuine. A man well worth knowing.

My motel room stank of a strange sweetness. On the desk (not, as is usual, in a drawer) was a Gideons Bible. I opened it to see if it was a King James, a New King James, a Revised Standard – the translation makes all the difference. Opened it, and that sickly sweet scent blasted from its pages. A perfumed Bible! My first. I raised my beer in a toast to whomever thought of doing that. America – you can ruin it, but you can't tame it.

Farther on, next morning, I stopped for an orange juice and an Egg McMuffin (my one fast-food weakness). The cashier was a very thin, slight woman, about 30, blond, smart eyes. No Texas accent. Long fingers – blunt, not tapered. A wedding ring, simple, thin, gold. Two interesting rings on her right hand. Not from around here. What's her story in 2008? What will it be in 2009? How did her smart eyes find their way to a McDonald's on the early shift in the middle of Texas? (I think she'd relate to a song I heard in Austin by that remarkable 20-year-old Sahara Smith: "There's a quiet hunger I have curled myself inside/And it's a thousand secrets wide.")

I was in Austin five days, during which three different kinds of people offered to buy my car. "Never." The big news was that some wag threw his shoes at the president of the United States while the world laughed. I didn't. It pains me to see the country of the Bill of Rights a laughingstock and pains me more to know that, these days, mockery is the least we deserve.

My last night in town I went to the Armadillo Christmas Bazaar to hear Marcia Ball's Pianorama. You've never heard anything like it. And I've rarely seen so many people grinning and unable to keep still. Six piano players, each uniquely superb, played five pianos, all at the same time, extemporizing boogie-woogie and blues, rhythms a century old and ever fresh, templates capable of infinite variation, irresistibly and incorruptibly funky.

I never heard a better embodiment of what we used to call the "American spirit." Can we, the people, again embody and enact that spirit? I won't say "no," I can't say "yes," so I'll just say "maybe" and let the dice roll.

2009 promises to be quite a ride. ■

letters at 3am

the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

BAN CLUSTER BOMBS

Not only is war hell; it is hellishly stupid. Wars tend to be run by smart people who do stupid things.

Take the gross stupidity of cluster bombs, which America's political and military leaders embrace as an effective weapon of warfare. Certainly these bombs are effective killers – but not just of enemies. A cluster bomb has hundreds of small bomblets packed inside it. When the container bomb explodes, it showers the bomblets over a wide area. Some of the bomblets explode, but a big percentage do not. They fall to the ground and just lie there, stupidly.

Days, months, or even decades later – after the battles are over – along comes a child, a farmer, or someone just walking along. *Blam!* Another stupid bomblet goes off, maiming or killing another innocent. Handicap International reports that 98% of cluster-bomb victims are civilians and 27% are children. The weapon is indiscriminate, brutal, stupid.

In early December, nearly 100 nations signed a treaty agreeing to ban cluster bombs – but the United States was not one of them. Our nation has about a billion of these murderous weapons in ready supply, and our leaders do not hesitate to deploy them, with lasting efficiency. Nearly four decades ago, for example, our military left an estimated 80 million of these unexploded bomblets in Laos. Since then, some 15,000 Laotians have been killed by them and many more horribly wounded.

At a recent White House press briefing, Bush press secretary Dana Perino was asked why the administration opposes the ban on cluster bombs. "I have forgotten," Perino responded. No doubt she forgot because no rationalization makes a lick of sense. But if anyone needs a reminder of why our great country should take the lead on banning this stupid weapon, contact the Cluster Munition Coalition: **www.stopclustermunitions.org**.

CHRISTMAS: DADDY'S PHILOSOPHY

This special day got me thinking about America's spirit of giving, and I don't mean this overdone business of Christmas gifts. I mean our true spirit of giving – giving of ourselves.

Yes, we are a country of rugged individualists, yet there's also a deep, community-minded streak in each of us. We're a people who believe in the notion that we're all in this together, that we can make our individual lives better by contributing to the common good.

The establishment media pays little attention to grassroots generosity, focusing instead on the occasional showy donation from what it calls "philanthropists" – big tycoons who give a little piece of their billions to some university or museum in exchange for getting a building named after them.

But in my mind, the real philanthropists are the millions of you ordinary folks who have precious little money to give but consistently give of yourselves and do it without demanding that your name be engraved on a granite wall.

My own daddy, rest his soul, was a fine example of this. With half a dozen other guys in Denison, Texas, he started the Little League baseball program, volunteering to build the park, sponsor and coach the teams, run the squawking PA system, etc. Even after I graduated from Little League, Daddy stayed working at it, because his involvement was not merely for his kids … but for all.

He felt the same way about being taxed to build a public library in town. I don't recall him ever going in that building, much less checking out a book, but he wanted it to be there for the community, and he was happy to pay his part. Not that he was a do-good liberal, for God's sake – indeed, he called himself a conservative.

My daddy didn't even know he had a political philosophy, but he did, and it's the best I've ever heard. He would often say to me, "Everybody does better when everybody does better." If only our leaders in Washington and on Wall Street would begin practicing this true American philosophy.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown *– visit* **www.jimhightower.com.** *You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio, 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.*

LABORATORY
COMPUTERS & SERVICE

CUSTOM BUILT COMPUTERS!



CORE I7 920 / X58 Chipset
3gig DDR3 Ram / 320g HD
Nvidia 9500 / DVDRW
$999



PHENOM 9550 / DVDRW
2gig DDR2 Ram / 320g HD
Nvidia 9600 VIDEO
$549



WE FIX COMPUTERS
$39
Flat Rate - No Hourly.
Includes VIRUS REMOVAL, INSTALLS and REPAIRS.
DESKTOPS or NOTEBOOKS.
Does Not Include Parts.

CALL 419-7422 OPEN 10-6 MON-SAT VISIT 5501 N LAMAR
ORDER ONLINE AT WWW.LABORATORYCOMPUTERS.COM

PLUMBLOSSOM WELLNESS
HOLISTIC SERVICES
WELLNESS BOUTIQUE
1700 S. Lamar #230 • 306-7344
Visit www.PlumBlossomWellness.com for a complete list of services offered.

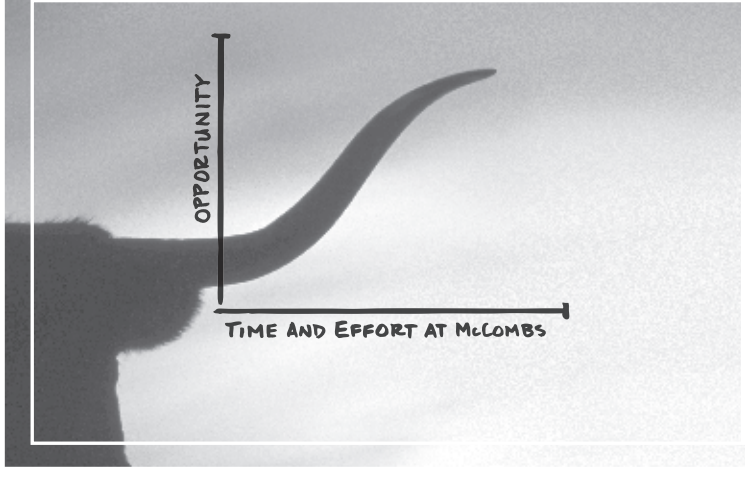
DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE FROM PLUM BLOSSOM

WIN A DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE

Enter for a chance to win a FREE ONE-HOUR DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE from Autumn Elias of Plum Blossom Wellness ($80 value).

Feel Better Now

To WIN a *FREE DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE,*
log on to austinchronicle.com/contests.



Texas Executive MBA™

You are invited to learn more about this rigorous two-year program, designed to meet the needs of academically qualified, mid-career executives who want to pursue an MBA degree while continuing to carry the full responsibilities of their current jobs. Classes are held on alternate Fridays and Saturdays.

INFORMATION SESSION
Wednesday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m.
AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center
MLK and University Avenue
For information and to register –
texasexecutivemba.info

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
McCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

PALACE

SPONSORED BY Seton Medical Center Williamson

THE GEORGETOWN PALACE THEATRE PRESENTS ...

LOVE, SEX & THE IRS



PHOTO BY ELAINE FUNK

BY
WILLIAM VAN ZANDT
AND
JANE MILMORE

JAN 9-FEB 1
FRI & SAT 7:30PM
SUN 2PM

DIRECTED BY
MATT GAUCK

512.869.7469 - 512.869.5081
WWW.THEGEORGETOWNPALACE.ORG
HISTORIC GEORGETOWN
810 S. AUSTIN AVE.

BRING IN THIS AD & RECEIVE $2 DISCOUNT ON GENERAL TICKET PRICE

BE A
POWERFUL VOICE
IN A CHILD'S LIFE

CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
CASA OF TRAVIS COUNTY, INC.

Train to volunteer as a
Court Appointed Special Advocate
for abused and neglected children
512.459.2272
www.casatravis.org

New Year, New Car!
Vehicle Loans

as low as 4.5% APR
Up to 66 months*

NEW! Tell Your Friends.
Join Online – rbfcu.org

RBFCU
RANDOLPH ★ BROOKS
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
1-800-580-3300

* Vehicle loan rates and terms are based on your credit rating, your relationship with us and other factors. Payment per $1,000 is approximately $17.03 per month for 66 months at 4.5% APR. Loan term will be based upon amount financed, collateral, and mileage. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Longer loan terms are available at different rates. Call our Consumer Lending Center for more details at 1-800-580-3300. Some restrictions may apply. Loans are subject to credit approval.

One World Theatre

Serving Gourmet Pre-concert Dinners by Jasper's, Truluck's, Whole Foods & Word of Mouth Catering!

08-09 Season

www.OneWorldTheatre.org



JUST ADDED!
George Winston
11/6/09, 11/7/09 & 11/8/09



Jerry Jeff Walker
1/9



Richie Havens
1/16



Christopher Cross
1/18



Al Di Meola
1/22

Presented by: Hartt & Soul Productions

1/23	Diane Schuur
1/30	Spyro Gyra NEW DATE
2/4	Dr. John
2/6	The Sax Pack
2/7	Shawn Colvin
2/11	Duncan Sheik
2/13	Tango Fire
2/15	Earl Klugh
2/20	Vienna Teng
2/27	California Guitar Trio
2/28	Judy Collins
3/27	Najee
4/5	Arturo Sandoval
4/25	Los Lobos
4/26	Stanley Clarke
5/1	Eddie Palmieri
5/8	The Rippingtons
6/5	Craig Chaquico
8/7	Ottmar Liebert
11/6, 7, 8	George Winston NEW

For Tickets: (512) 32-WORLD (512-329-6753) • GetTix (866) 433-8849

Austin American-Statesman
statesman.com
Musicmaker Rentals
Holland PHOTO IMAGING
kut 90.5
107.1 KASE

This project is funded and supported in part by the city of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believed that a great nation deserves great art.

If You Build It ...

Ah, you know the rest

BY ROBERT FAIRES

Do you *really* need a reminder from me as to what Austin's big arts story for 2008 was? After 16 years of planning, designing and redesigning, raising millions of dollars, and persevering through every obstacle imaginable, the Long Center for the Performing Arts opened. If you somehow missed hearing the blast of media fanfare around its debut, you were bound to catch the howls of outrage sparked by the massive traffic jam that occurred when two Long Center performances collided with the International Gem & Jewelry Show at Palmer Events Center and the Austin Reggae Festival at Auditorium Shores on the same Sunday afternoon. It was a painful misstep for the center, but it confirmed that the city knew the Long Center was there.

How well the Long Center truly fits into Austin's cultural landscape and whether it will fully realize its potential won't be known for some time. But one thing we *do* know eight months into this facility's life: Austin arts groups are realizing *their* potential when it comes to programming there. Companies across the cultural spectrum have been producing ambitious work there with impressive results. The lists in this issue tell the tale: companies from the Rude Mechs to Ballet Austin to ProArts Collective being hailed for work produced at the Long Center. And audiences agree; they have been packing the house for many of these homegrown shows. That's as encouraging a sign as the center's completion.

The Long Center wasn't the only arts story this year. The Butlers gave the UT School of Music a stunning $55 million. Some long-planned spaces moved forward (Arthouse's renovation, Zach Theatre's third space, Austin Museum of Art's new building), some venues debuted (KidsActing's Center Stage Theatre, TexArts' Morris Theater), and some departed (so long and thanks, Gallery Lombardi and Arts on Real). And we lost some dear friends (Raúl Salinas, Glynda Cox, Alan Pappé, Francis Hodge, Frank Delvy). Still, 2008 was about crossing a line, moving forward, growing up. The Long Center gave us a new measure of what we can be culturally, and even with the economic collapse now leaving the future uncertain for Austin's artists, there's no turning back from that. ■



Cult of Color: Call to Color

TOP 10 THEATRICAL TREASURES AND PLEASURES OF 2008

BY ROBERT FAIRES



Porgy and Bess

1) ***Porgy and Bess*** **(Zach Theatre)** George Gershwin's 1930s folk opera rescored for the 21st century. Arranger Greg Bolin distilled the original's grand orchestra to an intimate combo, over which director Dave Steakley laid richly personal rhythms of jazz and gospel, as well as some deeply evocative visuals, to bring this American classic home with freshness and immediacy.
2) ***The Casket of Passing Fancy*** **(Rubber Repertory)** As audacious a theatrical work as this city has seen, I think, one that crafted 500 individual experiences for its audience and made each member choose just one. You couldn't help but confront your own desires, but ultimately, the show was wondrously communal, as audience members lingered to share their experiences.
3) ***Elaine Stritch: At Liberty!*** **(Austin Cabaret Theatre)** What becomes a legend most? An autobiographical solo show that is as meticulously crafted, as personally illuminating, and as 11-o'clock-number all-stops-out gloriously entertaining as this one. There's life in the old girl yet. *Toujours gai*, Stritchy, *toujours gai*!
4) ***Five in the Morning*** **(Rotozaza at Fuse Box Festival)** Bare stage. Three swimmers. One disembodied voice issuing curious commands. Less was assuredly more in this London troupe's astonishing performance piece that navigated through issues of authority and identity and community in surprising and surprisingly nuanced ways.
5) ***The Red Balloon*** **(Tongue and Groove Theatre)** Our most whimsical stage company doing what it does best: infusing a work of theatre with a sense of wonder. This children's classic was delivered with a disarming innocence, theatrical ingenuity, gorgeous animation by Leah Sharpe, and a captivating score by Justin Sherburn.
6) ***Doubt*** **(Zach Theatre)** In terms of craft, an airtight script, but it gives the audience plenty of room to breathe – and form its own doubts – as it ponders a priest's guilt or innocence over accusations of molestation. Taut direction by Steven Dietz and an ensemble on fire proved traditional drama can still enthrall.
7) ***The Method Gun/ I've Never Been So Happy*** **(Rude Mechanicals)** The acting guru may have been fake, but the Rudes' tribute to everyone who acts – onstage and in life – was real and as touching as it was funny. And the first workshop for their new musical, a Western tall tale with cowgirl romance and racing dachshunds, was a giddy whirl across the saloon floor that left me grinning.
8) ***Ophelia*** **(Tutto Theatre Company)** Hamlet refracted through the eyes wherein lie all his sins remembered. Shakespearean investigator Dustin Wills proved again how much can be accomplished with imagination and a fiercely committed ensemble.
9) ***Still Life With Iris*** **(UT Department of Theatre & Dance)** Steven Dietz's fanciful fable about the uses of memory was realized with lush imagination in its designs and an affecting tenderness in performance.
10) ***The Clean House*** **(Zach Theatre)** Love is messy, life messier, and death messier still, we learned here, but crisp direction and keen leading performances (my wife's among them, I confess) washed the pain away with comedic bliss.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Bomb Shelter: or the Modern Pinocchio **(Tongue and Groove Theatre)**
The Nina Variations **(Gobotrick Theatre Company)**
The Brats of Clarence **(The Bedlam Faction)**
Art **(Penfold Theatre Company)**
Robert Johnson: Trick the Devil **(ProArts Collective/ Austin Community College Drama Department)**

TOP 10 DANCE AND CLASSICAL MUSIC WONDERS OF 2008

BY ROBERT FAIRES

1) ***Cult of Color: Call to Color*** **(Ballet Austin)** The dense, deeply personal mythology of visual artist Trenton Doyle Hancock, developed largely in two dimensions, exploded into a third via this vibrant, color-drenched collaboration with Graham Reynolds, who crafted a thrillingly animated score, and Stephen Mills, who stretched his choreographic muscles in new, compelling ways.
2) **Verdi:** ***Messa da Requiem*** **(Conspirare, Victoria Bach Festival Orchestra and Chorus, and Texas State University Chorale)** Craig Hella Johnson and Conspirare christened the Long Center with the company of voices in stunning fashion: leading a massed vocal ensemble that delivered the sound of Judgment Day. Breathtaking.
3) ***The Bat*** **(Austin Lyric Opera)** Viennese Champagne swapped for a tangy margarita. ALO's reinvention of Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* toasted Austin (and occasionally roasted it) with wit, affection, enthusiasm, and style.
4) **Music of John Adams (UT New Music Ensemble)** A vigorous tribute to the composer that affirmed not only his music's hypnotic power but its playfulness, its emotional depth, and its enduring greatness.
5) **Long Center Gala Opening Concert (Long Center for the Performing Arts)** A night for the ages, lit by Austin stars (Graham Reynolds, Anton Nel) and a majestic finale – 200 voices joined on Bernstein's "Make Our Garden Grow" – that still echoes within me.
6) **Blue Rhapsody (Austin Chamber Music Center)** On Gershwin's original setting for *Rhapsody in Blue*, a midsized ensemble and blazing Michelle Schumann on piano brought this work from the skyscraper spires back to street level: a jazzy, thrilling urban odyssey.
7) ***Woman's Work: Reconstructions of Self*** **(Andee Scott at Fuse Box Festival)** With solo commissions by five choreographers in distant places, the nimble, gifted Scott held the world in her body and held us riveted.
8) **Nobody Likes a Show-Off. Well, Maybe Just This Once (Austin Chamber Music Center)** Pure, dizzying virtuosity from violinist Sonja Braaten and cellist Martha Baldwin of Cleveland and our own Schumann again tackling Tchaikovsky, Ravel, and Beethoven.
9) **Home/Christmas at the Carillon (Conspirare)** Our world-class choir proving twice more it can create the most sumptuous sounds with any kind of music, the latter with exquisitely poignant aid from Eliza Gilkyson.
10) **"Soudain L'Hiver Dernier" (Winter's Tryst, American Repertory Ensemble)** In a typically stellar ARE program, this gem shone most radiantly: a haunting dance duet with ARE Artistic Director David Justin and Ramon Thielen movingly supporting each other.

TOP 10 FAVORITE ARTS EVENTS ACROSS THE DISCIPLINES (IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER)

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

1) ***Cult of Color: Call to Color*** **(Ballet Austin)** So Ballet Austin took a creation myth from the complexly warped imagination of visual artist Trenton Doyle Hancock, had composer Graham Reynolds of the Golden Arm Trio write a score, and presented it live with choreography by Stephen Mills? Sure, that's the sort of thing one sees every day, isn't it? Good lord, no, not even in Austin: It was as spectacular and compelling as it was unique, with costumes and movements and music vividly embodying Hancock's trippy vision onstage and providing a glimpse into a weird world beyond our own. Also, we'd give our left nut to own that fully sewn backdrop.

2) **"Cynthia Camlin: Extremities" (D Berman Gallery)** The immense watercolor depictions of icebergs with visible underpinnings of crystalline structure: the sort of brilliance that breaks our heart like it's another *Titanic* aching for the ocean floor.

3) **"Erin Cone: New Paintings" (Wally Workman Gallery)** Wow. Cone wouldn't have to explore the brighter possibilities of framing and graphic balance the way she does; she could simply paint a face, the same face, or the same pair of hands over and over, and we'd be happy to see the results. But she does explore the possibilities, charting new territories of juxtaposition and symmetry among her distilled figurative subjects, and our eyes and minds are ever grateful.

4) **"Steve Brudniak: Noumenon" (Julia C. Butridge Gallery)** A bit high in the fine-art strata to be tagged "steampunk," Brudniak's exquisitely crafted objects nevertheless often resemble what Capt. Nemo might've commissioned Philippe Starck to design for the kinkier chambers of his *Nautilus*. The first Brudniak exhibition in years showed the progress he's made in turning industrial castoffs into amalgamations of eerie beauty and baroquely scientific backstory.

5) **Rude Mechanicals strike twice** And thank Ceiling Cat for that, because the fubar mother of all traffic snarls thwarted our attendance at the Long Center premiere of *The Method Gun* this past spring, so we had to settle for the workshop production of the Rudes' newest, a multimedia exploration of parenthood, the Wild West, and how "they fuck you up, your mum and dad" called *I've Never Been So Happy*. Did we say "settle"? Far from it, actually, as the so-called "workshop" gig was more fully realized and excitingly presented than many companies' full productions. Racing dachshunds FTW!

6) ***The Casket of Passing Fancy*** **(Rubber Repertory)** Speaking of fully realized … Rubber Rep's Matt Hislope and Josh Meyer teamed with playwright Rebecca Beegle and a handful of talented performers to present what should have been a nightmarish tactical clusterfuck but was more of an extended dream of sensual fulfillment. Their *Casket* offered 500 separate intimate experiences to its audiences – Nudity! Dancing! Singing! Fire! Bodily fluids! Leeches! – and people are still talking about the wonders and weirdness that went down each night.

7) ***Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead*** **(Hyde Park Theatre)** Sometimes you don't need a multiring-circus structure to do well by an audience. Instead, you're Ken Webster directing Bert V. Royal's caustic and hilarious play about what happens to the *Peanuts* gang in high school and beyond: Then you simply wield the impressive theatrical chops you've honed for decades and present an ensemble of talented newcomers rendering the action of a narrative about modern youth that's almost as insightful as it is funny. To learn that reggae-happy stoner Linus *smoked his goddamn blanket* … that's the price of admission right there.

8) ***Unbeaten*** **(Salvage Vanguard Theater)** SVT's Shannon McCormick partnered with maestro Graham Reynolds and videographer Lowell Bartholomee to offer a one-man, multicharacter, half-improvised show about, well, *pro football*, of all things. Portraying an entire team and media entourage and hangers-on, McCormick covered the stage like Adrian Peterson rushing toward the end zone, providing a scene-by-scene battle for pigskin supremacy at the Professional Football League's Ultra Bowl. Also, best character name of the year: Coleco Baggins.

9) ***Ka-Baam!!*** **(Austin Improv Collective)** Asaf Ronen and friends turned the Hideout Theatre into a silver age comic-book fantasy with their series of superhero improvisations that strip-mined the genre for all it was worth, bringing to life scientific heroes, genetically mutated heroes, cosmically radiated heroes, and so on to battle (valiantly) all manner of evil villains and hell-spawned monstrosities. With different improvisers each night, with a talented comic artist sketching characters based on audience suggestions, with Ronen's interstitial evocations of adverts and bull-pen proclamations à la Stan "the Man" Lee, the shows were extremely popular laugh riots.

10) **"Monstrosities" (The Museum of Natural and Artificial Ephemerata)** Scott Webel and Jen Hirt's house-sized *wunderkammer* presented an exhibition of physical oddities – a two-headed calf, a duckling with four legs, bioluminescent cat pelt, giant toads and cockroaches, and so on – lovingly arranged and documented for public edification and amusement. And, best of all, on the Saturday tours, the curators personally regaled you with the informative and whimsical backstories of what's on display.


The Casket of Passing Fancy

CELESTA DANGER

TOP 10 MOST MEMORABLE LOCALLY PRODUCED LIVE PERFORMANCE OFFERINGS THAT I CHANCED TO SEE IN 2008


Hamilton Township

BY BARRY PINEO

1) ***Hamilton Township*** **(Salvage Vanguard Theater)** This original production of Jason Grote's savagely funny play, with a stunning lead turn by Jude Hickey, was by far the best live theatre production I saw this past year. Directed by Jenny Larson.

2) ***Five.Two.Ten*** **(Ariel Dance Theatre)** Short, sweet dances that were simply stunningly beautiful. With music by Peter Stopschinski and Graham Reynolds and projections by Nick Keene and Colin Lowry. Directed by Andrea Ariel.

3) ***Always … Patsy Cline*** **(TexARTS)** TexARTS' first show in its new Lakeway space was a rip-roarin', foot-stompin', hand-clappin' success. With a star-making turn by Selena Rosanbalm. Directed by Todd Dellinger.

4) ***Cinderella*** **(Austin Lyric Opera)** The first opera I'd ever seen and hopefully not the last. Starring the Long Center's Dell Hall. Directed by Garnett Bruce.

5) ***Crimes of the Heart*** **(City Theatre Company)** Beth Henley's comedy-drama given the sweet and gentle treatment it so greatly deserves. Directed by Jennifer McKenna.

6) ***The Nina Variations*** **(Gobotrick Theatre Company)** A funny, moving two-hander featuring two characters from Chekhov's *The Seagull*. Directed by Will Hollis Snider.

7) ***Big Love*** **(UT Department of Theatre & Dance)** Charles Mee's "modern reconstruction" of a trilogy of Aeschylus tragedies. Directed by Franchelle Stewart Dorn.

8) ***Garden District*** **(Different Stages)** I don't often see successful stagings of Tennessee Williams' plays, but these two one-acts were exceptions to the rule. Directed by Norman Blumensaadt.

9) ***The Casket of Passing Fancy*** **(Rubber Repertory)** While it felt somehow incomplete, this parlor game-cum-interactive theatre piece was the most original production I saw last year. Directed by Josh Meyer and Matt Hislope.

10) ***Stones in His Pockets*** **(Austin Playhouse)** Another funny, moving two-hander, this time with the actors playing multiple roles, about Hollywood invading a small Irish town. Directed by Don Toner.

TOP 10 PARTS AND WHOLES (IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER), PLUS ONE STANDOUT

BY HANNAH KENAH

1) ***The Clean House*** **(Zach Theatre)** A powerful script by Sarah Ruhl. Crisp staging by Dave Steakley. Great performances in great roles for several women and one man. But let's be honest: This was about the women.

2) **Sharon Marroquin's "Crandall Canyon Mine" (Big Range Austin Dance Festival)** Evocative and heartbreaking. Dance at its most communicative.

3) **Jason Newman channeling Frankenstein in *Bomb Shelter: or the Modern Pinocchio* (Tongue and Groove Theatre)**

4) **Jessie Tilton's continually surprising performance in Cyndi Williams' *Dug Up* (Austin Playhouse)**

5) **Jude Hickey's balls-to-the-wall performance in *Hamilton Township* (Salvage Vanguard Theater)**

6) ***Caroline, or Change*** **(Zach Theatre)** All of it, particularly the image of the bus coming to deliver the news of JFK's death.

7) ***Ophelia*** **(Tutto Theatre Company)** A clever reconstruction that posed the sad premise that perhaps Hamlet and Ophelia were legitimately in love.

8) ***You Are Pretty*** **(St. Idiot Collective)** All of it, particularly Lee Eddy's understated performance.

9) **Gina Houston in Sarah Saltwick's "Cecelia" (Austin Script Works' Out of Ink Festival)** Houston can hold a stage like few others, and Saltwick's quirky script was a perfect complement to that strength.

10) **The lovely imagination of *The Red Balloon* (Tongue and Groove Theatre)**

THE STANDOUT

The Casket of Passing Fancy **(Rubber Repertory)** Finally, and most spectacularly, a theatrical feast that pushed the comfort zone of its audience, drenched them in consequences, and ultimately turned an evening of individual choices into the most collective artistic experience to be found this year. Afterward, the question for your fellow watchers wasn't, "What did you think?" It was, "What happened?" And anything could. Huge props to Josh Meyer, Matt Hislope, Rebecca Beegle, and their fearless team for making this seemingly impossible and unbelievably complex work of art become its own reality. – *H.K.*



TOP 10 WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT AUSTIN THEATRE IN 2008 (IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER)

BY AVIMAAN SYAM

1) ***Ophelia*** **(Tutto Theatre Company)** Full of magic moments and dramatic direction, *Ophelia* wowed this admitted Bardophile from start to finish.

2) **Marc Pouhé's voice** I could listen to this actor give Macbeth's speeches all day. He should report on the current economic disaster. This, I think, would make us feel better.

3) **Opening of the Long Center** How many companies have already had the chance to perform in such a wonderful setup?

4) **Janelle Buchanan and Angela Rawna's back-and-forth scene in *Doubt* (Zach Theatre)** An unexpected direction in the play – an amazing performance of it.

5) **Waiting for my Passing Fancy** The combination of the fantastical atmosphere of the Rubber Repertory show, the grand duchess, and wondering why that guy chose to have his pubes shaved.

6) **Hyde Park Theatre's comedies** Both *The Lonesome West* and *Dog Sees God* kept me doing my involuntary, awkward guffaw all night (through their dark and sincere moments).

7) ***Ka-Baam!!*** **(Austin Improv Collective)** Austin's improv scene has grown to include plenty of great runs of theme shows, such as Asaf Ronen's superhero tribute.

8) **Beautiful designs at UT** Austin has seen productions of *Assassins* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* many times, but gorgeous set and costume designs made UT's Department of Theatre & Dance productions stand out.

9) **Getting snared in *Dug Up* (Austin Playhouse)** Wonderfully acted with a tale that sucked you in, Cyndi Williams' Southern drama was a treat of a Gothic ghost story.

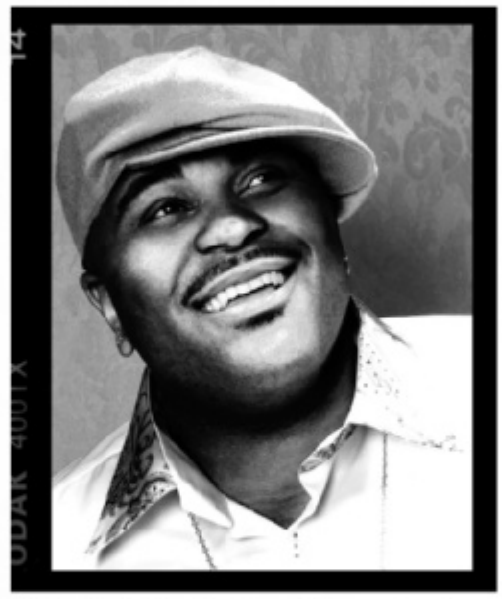
10) **St. Ed's on Cloud 9** I was proud to honor St. Edward's University productions at the Austin Critics Table Awards, and I enjoyed watching new Artistic Director David Long's entertaining take on *Cloud 9*.

CONTINUED ON P.28

give thanks...
give backpacks
With your help, hope is in the bag
Donations graciously accepted at
www.givebackpacks.org
Give BackPacks is a 501c non-profit and donations are tax deductible.

2009 AUSTIN EVENT CALENDAR
www.AustinFunStuff.com

AMERICAN IDOLS, CAROL BURNETT, & A JAZZ VIRTUOSO
PARAMOUNT
GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!
CALL (866) 4GET-TIX OR VISIT AUSTINTHEATRE.ORG
HISTORY. PERFORMED NIGHTLY.



Ain't Misbehavin':
Starring Ruben Studdard and Frenchie Davis—*American Idols*
FRI, JAN. 30–SUN, FEB. 1
It's a rollicking, swinging, finger-snapping revue of one of Broadway's most well-crafted shows of all time!



Laughter and Reflection with Carol Burnett
FRI, JAN. 9 & SAT, JAN. 10
The six-time Emmy Award winner performs in an enjoyable and intimate audience-interactive format—which she loves.
Come with your questions and share in the fun with one of the country's most loved and respected performers.



Chris Botti
American Trumpeter & Composer
THU, JANUARY 22
A gifted instrumentalist, a talented composer, and charismatic performer who has become a virtual genre-of-one in the realm of contemporary jazz.

Austin American Statesman statesman.com · PATRICK CANTILO · MIKE & BETSY COGBURN · DEBORAH K. DOBBS · RICHARD & AMY GRIFFIN · Velocity · InterContinental
This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division, by a grant from Texas Commission on the Arts, and is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.
kut 90.5 AUSTIN TEXAS · GetTix.net

TOP 10 MUSICAL TRIUMPHS, PLUS EVIDENCE THAT AUSTIN IS INNOVATING THE CLASSICAL WORLD

BY MICHAEL KELLERMAN

1) **Blue Rhapsody (Austin Chamber Music Center)** The temptation was strong to top this list with the Long Center's awesome debut, marking Austin's continued rise as a cultural capital. But in the end, instinct pointed to the Austin Chamber Music Festival's opening gala, about which I still ramble incessantly. After witnessing Artistic Director Michelle Schumann's roller-coaster performance of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* in its original orchestration, it would have been easy to walk away thrilled and miss what was at work behind such artistry. The center's knack for rebelling against stereotype continues to bring new life – and new audiences – to chamber music. More, please!

2) **The Long Center's gala opening weekend**

3) **I Dream a World (Conspirare)**

4) ***The Bat* (Austin Lyric Opera)**

5) **Austin Symphony Orchestra with André Watts**

6) ***Susannah* (UT Butler Opera Center)**

7) **The score for *Porgy and Bess* (Zach Theatre)**

8) **Miró Quartet with Bion Tsang (UT Butler School of Music)**

9) **Verdi: *Messa da Requiem* (Conspirare, Victoria Bach Festival Orchestra and Chorus, and Texas State University Chorale)**

10) **Brazilian Guitar Quartet (Austin Chamber Music Center)**

TOP 10 BELLY LAUGHS OF 2008

BY ELIZABETH COBBE

1) **Barbara Chisholm upending a large potted plant over her head in *The Clean House* (Zach Theatre)** You almost saw me get onstage and dump one over my head, too. I've never seen a temper tantrum look quite that fun.

2) **Kim Brackin, UT's women's swim coach, doing the breaststroke as Mother Ginger in *The Nutcracker* (Ballet Austin)**

3) **Jose Villarreal's bit as the comic skull in *Frankenstein* (Trouble Puppet Theater Company)**

4) **The lineup of lobsters in Aimée Gonzalez's short play "Crushed" in *Key Changes* (Austin Script Works)**

5) **Kelli Bland, the cutest hoodlum of all, in *The Red Balloon* (Tongue and Groove Theatre)**

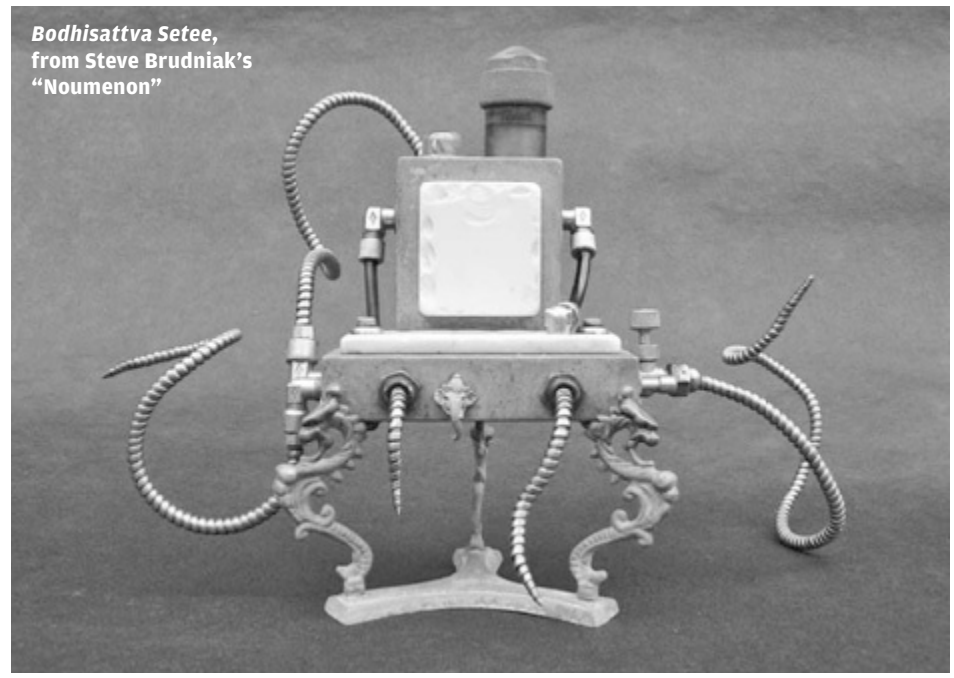
6) **Babs George vs. Matthew Radford in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Austin Shakespeare)**

7) **Nathan Jerkins' attempts to look unassuming in *Art* (Penfold Theatre Company and City Theatre Company)**

8) **Pretty much everybody in *Twelfth Night* (Scottish Rite Theatre)**

9) **Andrew Varenhorst's bizarre truck driver in *Gorilla Man* (the Vestige Group)**

10) **The Proteans' synchronized duck walk in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Austin Playhouse)**



Bodhisattva Setee, from Steve Brudniak's "Noumenon"

TOP 10 HAPPY MOMENTS OF ART APPRECIATION AND ARTISTS WHO FOUND A NEW GEAR THIS YEAR

BY RACHEL KOPER

1) **Steve Brudniak** Don't call "Noumenon," his solo sculpture show at the Butridge Gallery, a comeback; it was worth waiting for this new group of sculptures.

2) **Andrew Long** This new *Chronicle* contributor made a new body of work and just generally had a huge year with shows at the Austin Museum of Art, Butridge Gallery, Texas State University, and Houston's McMurtry Gallery.

3) **Debra Broz** The Pump Project Art Complex gallery is growing better by the second under her sound leadership.

4) **D Berman Gallery** Showing consistently good craftsmanship, the summer group show that included Joseph Phillips was sweet, and so were Jeff Dell's show "Big Pelt" and Malcom Bucknall's "The Other Thing Is" and Lance Letscher's "Industry and Design."

5) **"The Politics of War" (Flatbed Press)** The art was outstanding, and the timing of the show was stellar.

6) **"Modern Art. Modern Lives. Then + Now" (Austin Museum of Art)** So many locals loaned work for this show curated by James Housefield ("Then") and Dana Friis-Hansen ("Now"); it was a totally unique insight into collecting art in Austin.

7) **"LeWitt x 2" (Austin Museum of Art)** What I liked was seeing Sol LeWitt's private collection. I've been dreaming of this Anish Kapoor print ever since.

8) **Art Palace** The Eastside gallery had many fine moments this year – impossible to rank in my mind, just lots of good work by Eric Zimmerman, Elaine Bradford, Jonathan Marshall, and Peat Duggins, among others.

9) **Jules Buck Jones** He has had a sweet run lately, with successful exhibits at testsite and Art Palace and in AMOA's "New Art in Austin: 20 to Watch" – all the time drawing various animals which I like.

10) **Women & Their Work** The gallery was nice and fresh this year, with energetic and funny shows that included Cauleen Smith, Katie Pell, Donna Huanca, and the cool group of "Pattern Pattern Pattern."

TOP 10 DANCE PHENOMENA

BY JONELLE SEITZ

1) **Sharon Marroquin** The nuance and precision of this dancer-choreographer's movement and thinking left most of the audience in tears following the cathartic "Crandall Canyon Mine," based on the 2007 Utah mine collapse. On the flip side, she had Marcel Marceau charm in her clownish "Garden."

2) ***Episodes* (Ballet Austin/Suzanne Farrell Ballet)** World-famous prima Farrell's decision to work with Ballet Austin offered a rare chance to see this historic neoclassical work outside of New York.



Ellen Bartel

3) **"Chicken Complex" (Big Range Austin Dance Festival)** Ann Berman's hilarious avian-themed piece cleverly translated the spasms of poultry into modern-dance motifs within a sociopolitical narrative.

4) **Ellen Bartel** Whether she's organizing a festival (see No. 5), dancing in her own Spank Dance Company work, or coordinating 40 dancers in structured peace-themed improv for First Night, she is a mover and a shaker.

5) **Big Range Austin Dance Festival** See Nos. 1, 3, 8, and 9. 'Nuff said.

6) **The Long Center** Big ballet looks all grown up yet fresh in Dell Hall, and the vast terrace inspires patrons to dance under the stars during intermission.

7) **Acia Gray** Named the new board president of the International Tap Association, Tapestry Dance Company's co-founder and artistic director is pushing to move the hoofers' alliance permanently to Austin.

8) **Wideman/Davis Dance** This New York-based husband-and-wife duo made several stops in Austin this year, demonstrating what happens when you fuse edgy choreography and classical technique.

9) ***Orpheus Ascending* (Big Range Austin Dance Festival)** Christina Houle's haunting dance-theatre work made fascinating use of props and movements both pedestrian and animal.

10) **Karaoke at the *Chronicle* holiday party** Is any dance movement more organic than that which is inspired by a song about camel toe and made possible by booze?

TOP 10 SPACES WITH ART MAYBE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN TO (IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER)

BY RACHEL KOPER

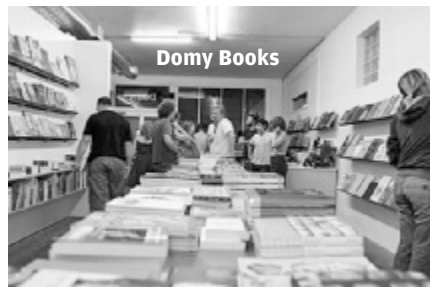


PHOTO COURTESY OF CARLING HALE

1) **Birdhouse Gallery** (1304 E. Cesar Chavez, **www.birdhousegallery.com**)

2) **Domy Books** (913 E Cesar Chavez, **www.domystore.com/austin/atx_index.html**)

3) **Co-Lab** (613 Allen, **www.colabspace.org**)

4) **1305 Position** (1305 E. Sixth #3, **www.1305position.com**)

5) **Kirk Gallery** (210 Guadalupe, **www.kirkgallery.com**)

6) **IF + D** (208 Colorado, **www.ifdaustin.com**)

7) **Greater Austin Garbage Arts – aka GAGA** (2214 S. First, **www.gagablahblah.com**)

8) **The OPERA House** (2209-K S. First, **www.theoperahousestore.com**)

9) **New East Gallery** (1601 E. Fifth #106, **www.diversearts.org**)

10) **Imagine Art** (2830 Real, **www.imagineart.net**)

$5

AMOA



chair

THE TEXAS CHAIR PROJECT BY DAMIAN PRIOUR

SEE THE POSSIBILITES IN 2009



Downtown • 823 Congress Ave. Suite 100 • Austin, TX 78701
512.495.9224 • www.amoa.org

Tuesday–Saturday 10–6
Thursday 10–8
Sunday Noon–5

Lane 1: (left to right) Melissa Miller, Crow Chair, 2007, Aluminum and oil paint, 6 x 4 x 4 inches, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour; Steve Brudniak, Bodhisattva Setter, 2007, Assemblage with propylene glycol, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour; David Hesser, Attack Chair, 2003, Steel, leather, and wood, 5 x 6 x 6 inches, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour; Candice Briceño, Ava, 2008, Hand-dyed wool felt, thread, on wire, 9 x 8 x 6, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour Lane 2: (left to right) David Deming, Mobile Chair, 2007. Painted steel, 8 1/2 x 5 x 8 inches, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour; Eric McGehearty, Sitting Pretty, 2003, Steel and auto paint, 3 x 4 1/2 x 3 inches, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour; Masaru Takiguchi, #258 Isu (Chair), 2007, Camphor Wood, 6 ½ x 3 1/8 x 4 ½, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour; Mike Reese, The Orchid Chair, 2007, Metallic flip-flop paint over nylon plastic, 7 3/4 x 9 1/2 x 7 1/2 inches, Courtesy of Damian and Paula Priour

The Austin Museum of Art is funded in part by Art Alliance Austin, Museum Trustees, Members and Patrons. Additional support is provided by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Art is free.

Have the holidays left you strapped for cash? Remember, art is FREE!

The Blanton Museum of Art is FREE for visitors every Thursday, and on the third Thursday of each month stays open until 9PM for exciting Yoga, book club, exhibition tours and more.

Present this ad for a FREE gift from the new Blanton Museum Shop! (limit one gift per person)



Cildo Meireles, *Zero Dollar*, 1984 Offset Lithograph
[Detail] Anonymous Donor, Blanton Museum of Art

The Blanton
Museum of Art
MLK at Congress | (512) 471 - 7324
Austin, TX www.blantonmuseum.org

New Year's Resolution:
#1 Visit the Texas State History Museum

WELLS FARGO FIRST Saturdays
THE BOB BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM

FREE exhibit admission, 2 - 6 pm on First Saturday, Jan. 3rd

Closing this Sunday:

• ***Cowboys and Presidents*** Don't miss this special exhibition where the Wild West meets the West Wing.

• ***The Light Before Christmas*** **In the IMAX®** A spectacular Stop-Action Animated film and a new holiday classic!

THE BOB BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM • 1800 N. CONGRESS @ MLK
WWW.THESTORYOFTEXAS.COM

Some Stories

The best books of 2008

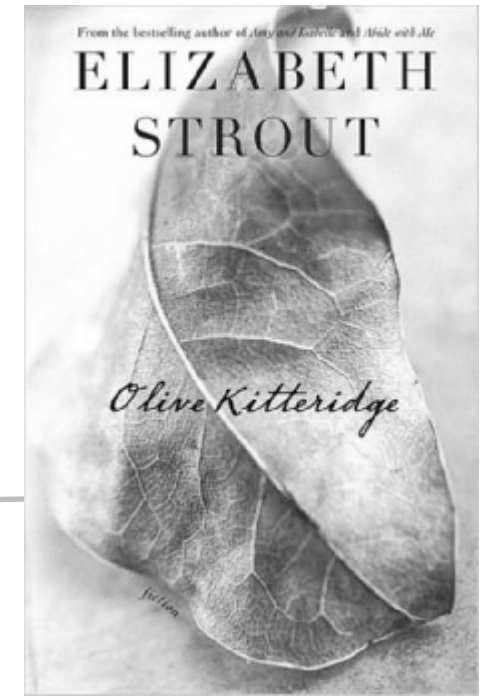
I didn't plan it this way, of course, but two of my favorite reads of the year have "The Story of" in their titles, and the third is a loosely linked novel of short stories. They are marvelous stories, all, and they can't be more different from one another or from my own life experience.

From our very favorite books, we desire, even require, not an exact mirror but some reflection of ourselves. I didn't see myself, per se, in any of these favorite books from 2008, but I was startled again and again by some commonality, some sense memory tapped, in these stories of a mute boy and his dog, an adolescent negotiating his mother's early-onset Alzheimer's, and a brittle, bullying woman from Maine.

The first two are debut novels. Fiftysomething David Wroblewski's ***The Story of Edgar Sawtelle: A Novel*** (Ecco Press) beautifully transposes Hamlet's Denmark to a dog-breeding farm in Wisconsin. And on the other end of the wunderkind spectrum is 24-year-old Stefan Merrill Block, a Plano native, who invented a whole new land in his lovely, ambitious ***The Story of Forgetting*** (Random House).

But it was Elizabeth Strout who stole my heart with her collection, ***Olive Kitteridge*** (Random House). Set in a coastal town in Maine, the stories believably (but never cutesily) engage many of the same characters, most especially the titular battering ram, whose hard shell conceals … well, even more hardness, but also a surprising capacity for compassion. Most of Strout's stories have something to do with love (its beginning; its end; its endless, shifting middle) and its defining conundrums (Is infidelity inevitable? Is companionship enough?). Put together in Strout's tender, precise prose, they tell one story: the story of how humans muddle along, ever wronging one another but – through grace or good luck or hard work – occasionally doing right by them, too.

– Kimberley Jones



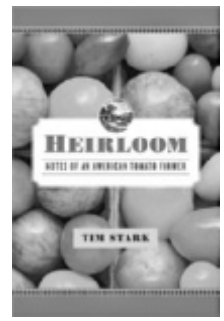
Cringe-Worthy Reads on Politics and Teens



During the fall presidential debates, as Obama struggled to defend his "socialist" health-care plan, I wanted nothing more than to chat him up on George Lakoff's ***The Political Mind: Why You Can't Understand 21st-Century American Politics With an 18th-Century Brain*** (Viking). As Lakoff tells it, Americans have been conned into believing health care is not a citizen's right, on par with public education, but a privilege. When I wasn't thinking about thinking (or trying to score the future prez's digits), I was ruminating over life in a teen's world, a world that makes for some of the creepiest literature. There were the horny drug fiends living in the fantastical art kingdom of Zach Plague's ***Boring Boring Boring Boring Boring Boring Boring*** (Featherproof Books), a fine modern satire. There were the brothers from Alabama trying to reconnect as they coped with discrete struggles – one's waiting for a college-acceptance letter and the other's trying to cope with being gay and post-suicidal *in Alabama* in Martin Wilson's ***What They Always Tell Us*** (Delacorte Books). What really brought me back, though, was Sarah Brown's ***Cringe: Teenage Diaries, Journals, Notes, Letters, Poems, and Abandoned Rock Operas*** (Crown), a compilation of embarrassing teen-diary entries, mainly from the Eighties and Nineties. The entries are high-larious, but *Cringe* is more than a mean older brother; it's an homage to the creative fun-lovers we used to be, before "real" life got in the way. *– Sofia Resnick*

Breaking Bread and 'Breaking Dawn'

Because I had my second baby and began work in earnest on my dissertation this year, my "to read" list is a damn sight longer than my "already read" list. That said, here are a few of my favorite tomes of 2008. For weeks, my husband would disappear with Neal Stephenson's ***Anathem*** (HarperCollins) for hours; that's how engrossing this tale of reclusive, deep-thinking monks called from their seclusion to rescue the secular world from disaster is. While Tim Stark's memoir, ***Heirloom: Notes From an Accidental Tomato Farmer*** (Broadway Books), is a touch overwritten (he was, after all, a failed fiction writer at the inception of his career as a cultivator of boutique nightshades), he composes a beautiful urban pastoral that might just make you consider turning some earth yourself come spring. If you're not quite ready to start planning your victory garden, you might want to consult with Michael Pollan in his short but incisive ***In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto*** (Penguin), in which he advises us to "Eat food, not too much, mostly plants." You may never look at your supplements the same way again. Finally, the book I loved to hate this year was Stephenie Meyer's ***Breaking Dawn*** (Little, Brown), the fourth and final installment in her sparkly teenage vampire series; I just couldn't say no to the saga of Bella and Edward, even though it *tewtally* jumped the shark.



– Melanie Haupt

Stuff This Person Liked

Lorraine López's hilarious and heartbreaking ***The Gifted Gabaldón Sisters: A Novel*** (Grand Central Publishing) hits the top of this year's favorite reads. While the novel starts when the titular Gabaldón siblings are young and full of life, as it moves through time, the ache of lost loved ones, burning family secrets, and the harshness of adult realities creep in like a storm. Yet López's book never loses its heart. And her ear for talk, particularly the convoluted conversations among family, simply delights. My second favorite read was the wickedly funny ***Stuff White People Like: The Definitive Guide to the Unique Taste of Millions*** (Random House) by Christian Lander. With entries such as "Being an Expert on *Your* Culture," "Knowing What's Best for Poor People," and (my personal favorite) "Public Transportation That Is Not the Bus," nonwhite readers will chortle with satisfaction until they hit entries such as "Coffee," "The Sunday *New York Times*," and "*The Wire*." At this point, you realize Lander's book is really an observation of a certain class of overeducated liberals/progressives of which you have matriculated, whether you like it or not. But if you're really worried, you can take the "How White Are You?" test in the back of the book. You'll have to translate to determine if you're still down with *la raza* or have brothah/sistah cred, but what else is new?



– Belinda Acosta

Land of Plenty



Joseph O'Neill's ***Netherland: A Novel*** (Pantheon) is an absorbing tale of post-9/11 America seen through the eyes of two very different "foreigners" living within. A Dutch financier whose marriage is disintegrating finds solace in playing cricket in the city's outer boroughs among a vibrant subculture of immigrants. He is befriended by a charismatic and entrepreneurial Trinidadian with grand designs for fulfilling his perception of the American dream.

Not nearly as well-mannered is Richard Price's rumbling novel, ***Lush Life*** (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), set in a far different section of New York, the ever-changing Lower East Side where chic, young hipsters share the neighborhood with the latest wave of immigrants and a multiracial underclass. Fueled by pitch-perfect dialogue and a genuine feel for the hood, Price's fast-moving story centers around an underachieving restaurant manager and the unexpected mugging and murder of a colleague.

From the other side of the world comes ***The Wasted Vigil: A Novel*** (Knopf) by London-based Pakistani novelist Nadeem Aslam, whose beautifully written narrative reveals the intertwined, multigenerational effects of relentless war in Afghanistan on a cast of international characters. Wonderfully descriptive passages of the nation's physical beauty underscore the ongoing tragedy of war.

Disappointing honorable mention: Philip Roth's ***Indignation*** (Houghton Mifflin), a slim novel of stifling, Midwestern college life in the early 1950s, is intense but hardly up to his usually unparalleled high standards.

Waste of time: Chuck Palahniuk's ***Snuff*** (Doubleday) can best be described in a word: dreck. *– Jay Trachtenberg*

And But So



In a year where the world has suffered the loss, by his own hand, of a man who was the Potentially Greatest Writer Of All Time – the poor, damned **David Foster Wallace**, yes – what's the use of mentioning even the worthiest texts of others? Instead, I'll recommend a single graphic compilation: ***Whatever*** (Alternative Comics), the collection of comics done by Karl Stevens for *The Boston Phoenix*. The book comprises vignettes of slackerly twentysomething life, rendered in galvanizing realism with an obsessive crosshatch pen, capturing the modern condition with much wit and a refreshing sense of silliness in the face of the abyss that would like to swallow us whole. Also: a suite of full-color paintings worthy of any fine gallery. If DFW could've drawn, this is what he would have done in a good year in college when his meds were working. Be kind to yourself and your friends when you can; gifting this book is one way to do that.

– Wayne Alan Brenner

PALM DOOR

401 Sabine Street • palmdoor.com

Austin's premier event space in the heart of the entertainment district is now taking reservations for weddings, receptions, birthday parties, corporate events, holiday parties and more.

For availability or to schedule a walkthrough, please call us at **512-391-1994.**

YOU ARE HERE



FIND YOUR SEXY SIDE

CINDIE'S LINGERIE AND GIFTS

2100 S LAMAR
@ OLTORF
SOUTH AUSTIN
326-9999

600 E BEN WHITE
@ IH-35
SOUTH AUSTIN
383-0611

14106 N IH-35
@ OWEN TECH
NORTH AUSTIN
670-7444

Open New Years Day 10AM-5PM

JANUARY INVENTORY CLEARANCE SALE

50% to 70% Off

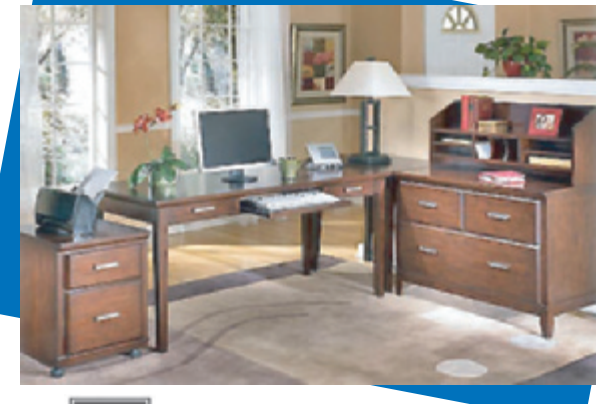
Plus+Extra 10% off for cash*

*Pay in full at the time of the sale by credit card, cash or check!



Everything Included! In Stock or Custom Order!

Or take
12 Months with
NO INTEREST
NO PAYMENTS
(w.a.c.)*ask for
details.



GAGE FURNITURE

7725 Burnet Rd-North Star Center
512.454.3613
Round Rock-La Frontera Center
512.600.0046
Limited Time Offer
www.gagefurniture.com

after a fashion

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

TOP 10s 2008

TOP 5 FASHION FAUX PAS

1) The empire waist (because you probably really *do* have something to hide)
2) Hip-huggers, when everyone else has moved on to a more modern silhouette that doesn't emphasize the whale-tail look of a thong splashing around in your panties
3) The execrably dreary trend that continues for beat-up cowboy hats. Makes you want to ask: "Dang, woman? What happened to you?"
4) Dressing like your teenage daughter: Just say no.
5) Dockers: The height of low class
6) Skinny jeans on not-so-skinny figures
7) Knee socks with platform sandals
8) Flat shoes: How do you walk in them?
9) Flip-flops. With anything.
10) Visible underwear

TOP 5 PUBLIC SCANDALS

1) Security at the Governor's Mansion
2) Those horrid new Christmas lights on Congress
3) The Domain's tax incentive: I say give them more.
4) Las Manitas closing and the Marriott not opening
5) Me

BEST THINGS IN AUSTIN

1) KLRU, the Downtown Austin Alliance, and Action Figure's *Downtown* TV show
2) First Night Austin
3) The bead stores in Austin: As much as I make fun of them, we have some fabulous ones
4) Christmas windows at Blackmail
5) Tie: The new Hotel Saint Cecilia (the Chateau Marmont of Austin) and Kimber Modern

TOP 10 MOST STYLISHLY DRESSED WOMEN IN AUSTIN

(According to me)
1) Becky Beaver
2) Carla McDonald
3) Karen Landa
4) Ava Late
5) Gail Chovan
6) Nina Seely
7) Jane Sibley
8) Julie Thornton
9) Anne Harris
10) Kate X Messer



Carla McDonald (l) with Dale Dewey and Karen Landa

CHRIS CASELLI

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits:
style@austinchronicle.com
or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

My Top 10 Outfits



SEABROOK JONES

One to remember

TOP 5 HIDEOUS OUTFITS I WORE THIS YEAR

1) Mother Ginger's costume for Ballet Austin's *The Nutcracker*
2) The bloody T-shirt and pajama pants I wore to the hospital last summer
3) My Halloween outfit: I looked more like a plus-sized Mata Hari than Martha Graham
4) The *L Style G Style* magazine photo of me that made me look like Peggy Lee
5) The wretchedly ugly hospital gown I wore when diagnosed with cancer

TOP 5 FABULOUS OUTFITS I WORE THIS YEAR



SEABROOK JONES

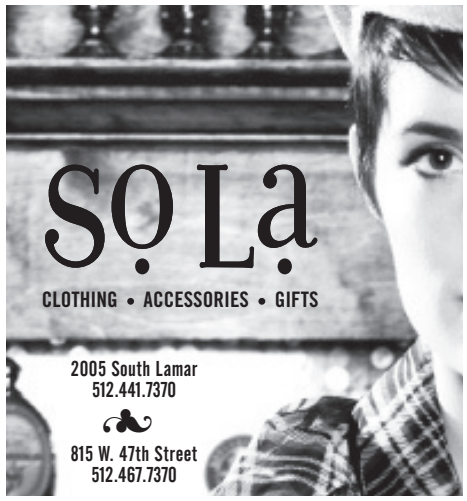
At the *Mildred Pierce* Pie Social with Margaret Moser – not one of the five, but fabulous nevertheless

1) The black-and-white John Galliano newsprint pants with a black cashmere turtleneck and a red cashmere blazer – Halston Deluxe, with a twist
2) The white Marc Ecko suit I wore with all black accessories to the Houston Grand Opera Ball
3) The blue silk robe coat (my own design) and orchids that I wore to the Long Center opening
4) Mother Ginger: sunglasses, fan, black cowboys boots, black leather jeans, Versace shirt, and full-length sheared beaver. I said *sheared,* dammit, not shaved. (Since I couldn't be sure they'd really know it's me, I made sure I decked myself out in my signature jewels, sunglasses, and fans.)
5) Shannon Moody of the Austin Film Society had the unmitigated gall to dress as me in real jewels and furs on Halloween. She, however, had a certain allure that I could never dream of possessing. And so I've retired (in your better dreams, and yes, chickadees, Shannon and I are cooking up some greatness for Texas Film Hall of Fame in March – hold on to your hats!).

THE ARABIC BAZAAR
GIFTS . CLOTHING . ANTIQUES & HOME FURNISHING
CLEARANCE SALE
AN EXTRA 20% OFF ALL PREVIOUSLY REDUCED PRICES &
NEW MARKDOWNS ON HUNDREDS OF ITEMS FOR
TOTAL SAVINGS OF UP TO 75% OFF
SALE ENDS THIS SUNDAY 1/4
Silver & Gold Jewelry, Rugs, Furniture, Clothing, Lamps
Bellydance Attire, Sheesha's (hookah's), Antiques
Textiles , Drums & Musical Instruments, Music CDs & DVDs
Glass & Ceramic Ware, Brass Work, Statuettes
Mosaic Backgammon Boxes & other Work
5013 DUVAL ST
533 - 9227 . www.WMDproductions.com

JOE KOEN & SON JEWELERS
STORE CLOSING
CONSOLIDATION
SALE ENDS SOON!!
FURTHER REDUCTIONS
YOU MUST ACT NOW!
BALCONES LOCATION
CLOSING
5517 Balcones Dr. • Austin
Mon.-Fri. 10-6 • Sat. 10-5
Closed Sunday
DOWNTOWN LOCATION
CONSOLIDATION
611 Congress Ave. • Austin
Mon.-Fri. 9:00-5:30 • Sat. 10-5
Closed Sunday

FRANZETTI
MASTER JEWELER
Austin
Bat Necklaces
Design by
Bobby Franzetti
450 -1121
3707 Kerbey Ln
Austin Texas 78731



We've joined together to offer a beautiful selection of wedding invitation for all styles and budgets.

id DESIGN & ONE BLOSSOM

www.idodesign.com
MODERN • STYLISH
WHIMSICAL

www.oneblossom.com
BOTANICAL • LUXURY
LETTERPRESS

going green FOR the new year?

Reduce Wear Vintage! Recycle Reuse

Fabulous Vintage, Stagewear, Housewares, and more...

FLASHBACK Vintage

1805 South First Street
Austin Texas 78704
512-445-6906
www.flashbackaustin.com

Get *THE* **AUSTIN CHRONICLE** in your mailbox **every week for less than**

$1.25 an issue.

SUBSCRIBE

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE Call **454-5766**

Sexy Shoes • Hosiery • Club Wear • Sexy Lingerie • Dance Wear • Bachelorette Supplies • Specialty Adult Toys and Gifts



10% OFF With This Ad

Le Rouge
512-469-0991
3405 N IH 35 Austin, TX
Lerougeboutique.com

NEW YEAR'S SALE

UP TO 50% OFF

LARGE GROUP OF FAMOUS BRAND SHOES

Ask about our Teacher's Discount

Shop locally at SHOE BOXES

Austin's Affordable Fashion Boutique
Anderson Lane & Burnet Road
Across from Northcross Mall • 323-0554
www.shoeboxesaustin.com

Fitting shoes since 1976
The Fitting Stool Footwear for Living
Barton Creek Mall • 328-0682

PLUMBLOSSOM WELLNESS

{100% NATURAL PRODUCTS} {COMPLETE HOLISTIC CLINIC}

Stress-Free New Year's Resolution Support!

LET OUR EXPERTS HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOUR 2009 HEALTH AND WELLNESS GOALS...



- *Nutritional Experts on Staff*
- *Personalized Attention*
- *Free Nutritional Consultation*
- *Finest Pure, Natural Supplements*
- *Pure Body and Skin Care*

Visit Plum Blossom Wellness - Your Local Resource for Natural Health Products & Expert Advice in a Beautiful, Relaxing Environment. We are Open 7 Days a Week!

100% Pure Health! Feel Better Now!

plumblossomwellness.com
512.306.7344 • 1700 S. Lamar, Suite 230

WAREHOUSE SALE

THIS WEEKEND!

THIS SATURDAY 10-6 ONLY!



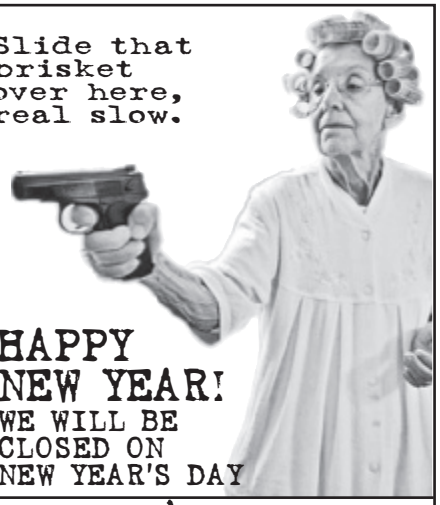
thekhazana.net

THE KHAZANA

HOME FURNISHINGS THAT TOUCHES THE SOUL

WAREHOUSE: 2401 THORNTON RD. UNIT B › 945-0788 STORE: 900 N LAMAR › 320-9905

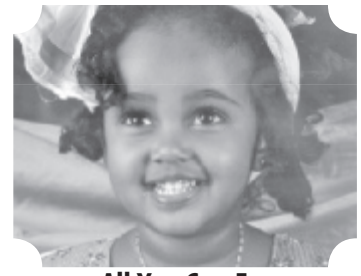
Slide that brisket over here, real slow.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!
WE WILL BE CLOSED ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

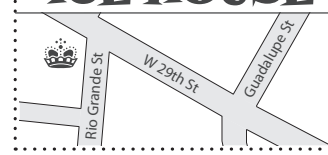
RUBY'S B·B·Q
29TH & GUADALUPE
477-1651
OPEN 7 DAYS • 11AM-11:30PM

Announcing
New Lunch Buffet
Beginning Tues., Sept. 30th



All You Can Eat
Tuesday-Friday, 11am-2pm
$9.99 – present this ad for $1.00 OFF
ASTER'S ETHIOPIAN restaurant
Dean Keeton & I-35 512/469-5966

DRUNGO ICE HOUSE



ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR
COME WATCH THE
FIESTA BOWL
ON OUR
GIANT
PROJECTOR SCREEN
2828 Rio Grande St • Austin, TX • 512-478-6666

NEW YEAR'S BRUNCH
January 1st 2009
from 11AM until 4PM
Featuring
Black Eyed Peas for good luck &
Opal's Sun Dried Divine Mary for the hangover
Opal Divine's
AUSTIN GRILL
Freehouse • Penn Field • Marina
WWW.OPALDIVINES.COM

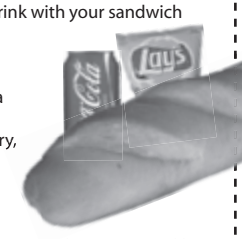
"keepin' austin sweet!"
Sugar Mama's BAKESHOP
A FAMILY-OWNED BAKESHOP
WITH A FLAIR FOR THE OLD-FASHIONED
1905 S 1ST STREET, SUITE A
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78704 ★ 512-448-3727
WWW.SUGARMAMASBAKESHOP.COM



Make It a Meal with Free Chips and Drink

Craving falafel? A tofu wrap? Or maybe you're more of a chicken gyro fan. Bring in this coupon and receive free chips and drink with your sandwich purchase.

And then take home a fresh-baked cookie, pastry, cupcake, or cheesecake for dessert!



offer expires Jan 15, 2009. Limit one coupon per visit.

Lux BAKERY & CAFE
3601 W William Cannon #175 • 891-9850
Wm Cannon/Brodie - Next to Firestone
LuxBakeryAndCafe.com

YOUR HOME ENTERTAINMENT HEADQUARTERS!
SPEC'S
Wines, Spirits & Finer Foods.
Enjoy Life.



• Next to IKEA (Round Rock)
• Airport Blvd • Arbor Walk
• Highway 71@Brodie Lane
(512)366-8260
All Spec's Closed New Year's Day
By State Law.

VIRGINIA B. WOOD'S BEST BITES OF 2008

Top Savory Bites

1) Remember When Dairy buttermilk: Tangy and luxurious, this marvelous liquid was my favorite discovery of the year. It made everything taste better – biscuits, cornbread, chocolate cakes, pralines, buttermilk pie. Oh, my!

2) Tomatoes from Boggy Creek Farm: I feasted on Cherokee Purples and Green Zebras as long as they lasted during the summer.

3) Black-eyed peas from Oak Hill Farm: Cora Lamar's black-eyed peas were a crucial component of my favorite summer meal, poured over cornbread and paired with sliced tomatoes and watermelon salad.

4) Brunch at Olivia: Voluptuous Gouda grits topped with Gulf shrimp, house-cured bacon, picnic-style fried chicken, hot biscuits with lemon curd and marmalade – bring it on!

5) Lamb's tongue fricassee with cherry-apricot mustard at Olivia: Perhaps our server described this dish as "South Austin foie gras" to make it more approachable to a wider audience, but one bite of this transcendent dish revealed that chef James Holmes has a very special touch with offal.

6) Smoked pork chop with herb butter from Perry's Steakhouse & Grille: The Houston chain announced its arrival to the Austin media with packages of these gargantuan chops. It was undoubtedly some of the best pork I've ever tasted – and it took me three meals to finish one chop.

7) Salsa *negra* at 10th Street Tacos: I really liked this fiery salsa over the "drowned tacos" on my first couple of visits, but when I went back, the restaurant had closed. Not to worry: Some former employees have reopened as the Screaming Goat, and they still make this salsa.

8) All-day breakfast salad at Cissi's Market: Chef Deegan McClung's fresh twist on a French classic is a light and tasty salad of hearts of romaine dressed in a mustard vinaigrette with house-cured lardoons and perfect sunny-side-up quail eggs. Delicious – and adorable.

9) Paqui Tortillas at Whole Foods Market: The proprietors of this new local company say that "paqui" is the Aztec word for happiness. These divine flour tortillas made me very happy.

10) Lamb ribs from Twin County Dorpers: I rubbed these beauties with the new Cocoa Puro Kakáwa spice rub and then cooked them low and slow. I hope more local chefs feature this quality meat from a ranch near Harper so Twin County will deliver to Austin more often.

Top Sweet Bites

1) Pies at the *Mildred Pierce* Pie Social for Stephen Moser: Austin's best pie makers produced a dazzling array of delicious pies for this campy movie feast last March. My personal favorites were the Almond Joy pie from Texas Pie Co. and the lemon meringue from the students at the Texas Culinary Academy.

2) Sweet Tango apples: Often one of the perks of this job is the product samples. These wonderful crisp, sweet/tart apples won't be on the commercial market until fall 2009, but the preview box I got this year left me yearning for more.

3) Tipsy Watermelon Salad from Virginia Willis: I loved this refreshing salad when the Atlanta cookbook author made it at a Central Market class last June, and I made it all summer long. It's in her book, *Bon Appétit, Y'all*.

4) Salted Caramel Gelato Sandwiches from TÈO: During the summer, TÈO served a big scoop of this addictive gelato sandwiched between two big chocolate-chip cookies – what a delightful treat.

5) Rita Shave's fresh berry *crostata*: My friend brought this rustic, open-faced Italian berry tart to my annual birthday potluck. So good, I didn't want to share it.

6) Vance Ely's homemade Mexican vanilla ice cream: What could be richer and more delectable than hand-churned ice cream made with Remember When Dairy heavy cream and whole milk? This was another big hit at my birthday party.

7) Guajillo honey from Thunder Heart Bison: I picked up a jar of this distinctive South Texas honey at the Thunder Heart booth at Sunset Valley and enjoyed it on biscuits for days.


Mildred Pierce Pie Social

PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

8) Gianduja milkshake and peanut-butter cookies at Cookie Lounge: Milkshakes made with Remember When Dairy whole milk and Amy's Ice Creams paired with peanut-butter cookies chock-full of Butterfinger pieces, toffee bits, and Valrhona chocolate chips. These are my drug of choice at this campus-area create-your-own-dessert shop.

9) Lemon curd and homemade marmalade at Olivia: These house-special condiments grace every brunch at this restaurant. I suggest you slather them on biscuits, wheat toast, spoons, fingers …

10) Belgian ale doughnuts with stout caramel sauce at Cissi's Market: Faith Hoi Yan Chan's elegant doughnuts are served warm and dredged in cinnamon sugar with a pot of rich, malty caramel for constant dipping. They are so worth a trip to SoCo.

Top 10 Farmers' Market Finds BY KATE THORNBERRY


San Miguel Seafood

1) Wholesale Texas Gulf red snapper from San Miguel Seafood ($15/pound): While most red snapper available in Austin is shipped here from as far away as Costa Rica, Roberto San Miguel brings fresh, never frozen red snapper up from our Texas coast in huge ice chests every Saturday. Super fresh, and it's a bargain, too! A real find. *(Austin Farmers' Market Downtown and at the Triangle.)*

2) Full Quiver Farm's sharp cheddar and extra-sharp cheddar cheese: For $5, you can buy these creamy, sharp, locally produced cheddars that rival European cheeses in excellence. *(Sunset Valley Farmers Market.)*

3) McDonald's Farm's shelled pecans: Commercially available pecans are often of indeterminate age, but McDonald's are this year's harvest of fresh, delicious Desirable pecans, and at only $7.50 a pound, they're cheaper than supermarket pecans, too. *(Sunset Valley Farmers Market.)*

4) Richardson Farms' grass-fed beef rib eyes: If you haven't tasted locally raised and slaughtered grass-fed beef, you don't know what you're missing; it has easily twice the flavor of conventionally raised beef and better texture as well. Bone-in rib eyes are $10 a pound; boneless rib eyes are $12 a pound. The ground beef at $5 a pound is a major deal as well. *(Sunset Valley Farmers Market.)*

5) Edis' Chocolates: Now that the temperature has cooled off, Edis Ferreira is back at the market with her delicate chocolate truffles. She has several new flavors this year: black and Earl Grey tea, pistachio and cardamom, Cypress Black Sea Salt, and Red Hawaiian Sea Salt. I'm particularly enamored of the two new salt-crystal flavors; the blend of salt and chocolate is divine. $20 a dozen, $10 a half-dozen. *(Sunset Valley Farmers Market.)*

6) Peach Creek Farms' handmade pork sausages: German-style, Italian (both sweet and hot), and breakfast sausages, all made from pastured Berkshire pork ($5.25-$5.50 a pound). There's just none better! Your dog will love you if you pick up some of their $1 packages of dog treats! *(Austin Farmers' Market Downtown and at the Triangle.)*

7) Remember When Dairy's chocolate milk: With a fat content of 5%, this never-homogenized, low-temperature pasteurized chocolate milk is richer, fresher-tasting, and creamier than any milk you can get, unless you own a cow yourself. Flavored with gourmet quality chocolate, it's ecstasy at $3.99 a quart. *(Sunset Valley Farmers Market and Austin Farmers' Market Downtown.)*

8) Sgt. Pepper's hot sauces: Now selling in handsome wooden gift crates of any three bottles for $12 (two crates for $20). Choices include Ancho Mama's Not Hot, Chipotle del Sol Smokin' Hot, award-winning Tejas Tears and Tropical Tears habanero sauces, as well as El Chipotle Balsamic Blackberry, Picante Pumpkin, Smoked Tomato, and Roasted Tomatillo. *(Sunset Valley Farmers Market.)*

9) Thai Fresh: The Thai Fresh booth is back at the market, selling authentic, sustainably produced Thai cuisine at affordable prices. Pad thai is $6.50, coconut soup is $6.50, spring rolls are two for $3, and Thai curries (served with rice) are $7.50. *(Austin Farmers' Market Downtown.)*

10) Oaxacan Tamaleo's tamales (www.tamaleo.com)**:** Some of the best tamales in town, and at $3 for a huge one, wrapped in a steamed banana leaf and topped with homemade green or red salsa, they are the perfect portable feast. Pork, chicken, beef, and bean are available, always piping hot, and can be ordered ahead by the dozen, as well. *(Austin Farmers' Market Downtown and Sunset Valley Farmers Market.)*

CONTINUED ON P.36

Top 10 Meat Eats

BY MICK VANN

1) Tiger Cry and Moo Ping at Madam Mam's Westgate: Meltingly tender, smokily char-grilled, and Thai spice-alicious, both are as authentic as they come and worthy of any highly selective carnivore.

2) Beef with cumin and *ma po dofu* at Asia Cafe: The beef with cumin is just that, tender stir-fried beef seasoned with cumin and garlic chunks in chile oil, and the cafe's spicy Sichuan minced pork and tofu is orgasmic.

3) Chicken-fried steak and a platter of pork-rib ends at R.O.'s Outpost: Randy does chicken-fried steak right – tender and pan-fried (not deep-fried), best begun with a platter of smoky pork-rib ends as a snack. Think pie before you leave!

4) Shaken beef at Le Soleil: Small marinated cubes of mouthwatering, meltingly tender beef goodness nestled on a bed of slivered onions, herbs on the side, lemon-salt for dipping. 'Nuff said!

5) Burgers at Longhorn Po-Boys: This joint is known for its Mideast fare, with a killer gyro for those inclined, but way on the right side of the menu board lurk fantastic burgers: large, meaty, juicy, and charred just right.

6) Beef lemongrass *banh mi* sandwich at Tâm Deli & Cafe: It starts with the fresh crunchy bun and then the charred, marinated, thinly sliced beef oozing lemongrass flavor. Herbs and pickled veggies complete the perfect sandwich.

7) Rib eye steak at the Backstage Steakhouse & Garden Bar: An aged, fork-tender, richly flavored chunk of juicy steak at a reasonable price. Ask for some of Ray's *chinois* dipping sauce for the fried oysters on the side – a delicious match.

8) Pork in *chile cazcabel* sauce at Sazón: Tender cubes of porcine goodness bathed in a rich, complex sauce made from jingle-bell chiles, nestled in a handmade corn tortilla. Hard to beat.

9) Al pastor taco plate at Rosita's al Pastor: Three tacos of wonder pork, marinated and rotatingly cooked on the *trompo*, dripping with pineapple from above. Real-deal Mexican food for a song.

10) All-you-can-eat lamb shanks at DiMassi's Mediterranean Buffet: Sure, it's a buffet, but there are piles of unctuous marrow-laden lamb shanks waiting to be scarfed. Lamb shanks, people!



The Frisco Shop

JOHN ANDERSON

Top 10 Biscuit Breakfasts of 2008

BY MM PACK

1) The Frisco Shop: So what if it's a new location? Ricky Nelson is still on the jukebox, and the breakfast cooks still smile when you light on a counter stool. Biscuits come with several breakfast combinations; my favorite is the Decorated Eggs, which share a platter with chili, beans, grits, and biscuits. Order a portion of Laurence's gravy on the side; it's just about the best sausage gravy in town. If you want butter and preserves on the fluffy golden biscuits, no measly little packets here – you get an entire saucer full. *6801 Burnet Rd.*

2) Lamberts Downtown Barbecue: Too bad Lamberts only makes biscuits for Sunday brunch. There's a lot to like on the buffet, but don't stop eating without an order of this town's tallest buttermilk biscuits, which come with mildly spiced sausage gravy and eggs beautifully cooked your way. *401 W. Second.*

3) Arkie's Grill: This is an Austin institution and a great place for a traditional Southern diner breakfast. Two eggs to order, a sausage patty, and a pond of creamy grits with light biscuits and beautifully seasoned sausage gravy on the side. Not open weekends, but weekday breakfast starts at 5:30am. *4827 E. Cesar Chavez.*

4) Cisco's: Biscuits and migas are an inspired match that reflects much about Central Texas history and culture. This could be the definitive Austin breakfast – a big beautiful plate of migas with a griddled sausage patty, pinto beans, a spreading pool of red salsa, and smooth, dense, brown-topped biscuits to mop it all up. *1511 E. Sixth.*

5) Counter Cafe: In this tiny 21st century diner in the old G/M Steakhouse location, you can get the big crumbly biscuits with a quality cream gravy or go all out for the excellent eggs Benedict: poached eggs with hollandaise and fresh spinach, served on split biscuits instead of the traditional English muffin. Now why didn't I think of that? *626 N. Lamar.*

6) TRIO at the Four Seasons: Yes, it's in a swank hotel, and TRIO is a steak house at night, but breakfast on the sunny patio overlooking the river is a very fine way to start a day. I pamper myself with lovely buttermilk biscuits accompanying freshly squeezed juice and an omelet with tender veggies. A slight hint of nutmeg in the silky cream gravy reminds us that the distance is short to a classic French béchamel. *98 San Jacinto.*

7) Popeyes: I know, I know: It's a chain, and we don't do fast food, but these are seriously good biscuits – light, flaky, buttery, with just the right touch of salt. No butter is served, but it would be redundant, and do avoid the honey "sauce." Just eat the biscuits, preferably with hot, crispy fried-chicken tenders tucked inside. And importantly, you can satisfy a biscuit jones here any time of day. *Nine locations,* **www.popeyes.com.**

8) 1886 Cafe & Bakery: If you find the idea of jalapeño-corn biscuits startling (as I did), don't let that stop you. I shelved my biscuit purism and found them terrific – spicy, crumbly, corny, but definitely still biscuits. On the ground floor of the historic Driskill Hotel, 1886 serves these babies for breakfast every day (till 2:30pm on weekends); they're fine on their own, but go crazy, and order the Austin, Texas, Benedict – poached eggs and smoked bacon on split biscuits, dressed with amazing chorizo cream gravy. *116 E. Sixth.*

9) Kerbey Lane Cafe: Kerbey Lane does the right thing and serves breakfast 24/7, so if you need a biscuit in the afternoon or at 3am, this is the place. The big buttermilk biscuits are fluffy rather than flaky, perfectly salted, and served with lovely cream gravy – plenty peppery. Alongside a couple of eggs and two patties of breakfast sausage, you'll be good to go. *Four locations,* **www.kerbeylanecafe.com.**

10) Dan's Hamburgers: If you want to know where the retired people of South Austin are at 10am on a weekday morning, they all seem to be at Dan's eating biscuits, sausage, and gravy. Forget about a table unless you have time to wait, but you can get biscuits to go. These big boys are light and a bit crumbly, and the thick, tasty gravy is rife with sizable flecks of black pepper. *4308 Manchaca Rd., 5602 N. Lamar.*

The Wild and Wacky World of Wine Widgets

BY WES MARSHALL

1) Pulltaps corkscrew ($8): Simply the best corkscrew ever invented. Articulating arm, Teflon screw, serrated foil cutter, and comfortable on the fingers. Available in most wineshops.

2) Franmara 1030 Cork Retriever ($4.79): For those awful times when you accidentally push the cork into the bottle, this masterful little device will get it back out. **www.webstaurantstore.com.**



Pulltaps corkscrew

3) Waring Pro WO50 Cordless Wine Opener ($39.99): Waring says this will do 80 bottles on a charge, so folks trying to avoid carpal tunnel problems at a party will appreciate this powerful automatic opener. At Bed Bath & Beyond.

4) Vinturi Essential Wine Aerator ($39.95): A great aerator that really does improve young wines. **www.vinturi.com.**

5) The WineRack ($29.95): Still looking for a way to sneak your favorite adult beverage into a concert? The maker claims early-stage cosmetic benefits. **www.firebox.com.**



The WineRack

6) The Pek Preservino ($39.95): Throw away those wine-preservation pumps. They suck aromas out of wine. This works by putting a thin layer of inert gas on top of the wine, preventing oxygen's ill effect from getting to the wine. **www.peksystems.com.**

7) The Cooper Cooler Rapid Beverage and Wine Chiller ($99.95): Load it with ice, turn it on, and in six minutes (the one minute refers to a can of beer or soda), you've got a cool bottle of wine. Use only on young wines. It turns the bottle, which is good for fast cooling but bad for delicate older wines. **www.amazon.com.**

8) Schott Zwiesel Pure Tritan Crystal Wine Glasses ($69.95, set of six): Not unbreakable but much stronger than normal crystal because it uses titanium instead of lead. Available in better wineshops.

9) The Personal Wine Curator 3.0 ($49.95): The most cost-effective computer program for folks who like to keep track of the wines they own and what they've tasted. **www.thewinecurators.com.**

10) The AlcoHAWK Slim Breathalyzer ($49.99): Save lives by keeping track of your blood-alcohol level. Available at Walgreens, CVS, and Brookstone.

CONTINUED ON P.38

mellow mushroom

2426 Guadalupe St.
Specializing in Vegetarian & Vegan Delights

far out take out & Delivery (512) 472-6356

Minimum order for delivery $20
Limited Area and Hours

www.mellowmushroom.com

munchies

TOMATO BISQUE Cup $3.15
TORTILLA SOUP Cup $3.15 Add Chicken $1.00
GARLIC BREAD $2.65
GARLIC BREAD WITH CHEESE $3.45
BRUSCHETTA $4.00
HUMMUS $5.05

PRETZELS Half Order (3) $4.00 – Whole Order (6) $7.50
Specify Garlic and Parmesan or Honey and Cinnamon Sugar.

MEATBALL APPETIZER $4.00 Round, juicy, meaty – Eaty!

THE CAPRI $7.40
This exquisite salad features layers of juicy Tomatoes, Fresh Mozzarella, and Basil. Served with a side of Spring Mix and Balsamic Glaze.

STUFFED PORTOBELLO $5.65
Mushroom Cap with Garlic Butter, Artichoke Hearts, Sun-Dried Tomatoes, Spinach and Feta Cheese, topped with Mozzarella Cheese on a bed of Fancy Lettuce.

OVEN ROASTED WINGS (5) $4.45 or (10) $8.50
Available in Hot, Mild, BBQ, and Jerk.

salads

GREEK REG $8.75 'LIL $4.55
Iceberg, Red Cabbage, Carrots, Cucumbers, Onions, Green Peppers, Mushrooms, Feta, Kalamata Olives, Tomatoes, Pepperocini, and Banana Peppers. Served with Esperanza dressing.

CHEF REG $8.75 'LIL $4.55
Iceberg, Red Cabbage, Carrots, Cucumbers, Onions, Green Peppers, Mushrooms, Kalamata Olives, Tomatoes, Mozzarella, Ham, and Sprouts. Served with Esperanza dressing.

FIELD GREEN REG $8.00 'LIL $4.25
Play the field with our Field Green Salad. This salad features assorted gourmet Lettuce, Mushrooms, Tomatoes, and Green Olives. Served with our Balsamic Vinaigrette dressing.

TOSSED REG $5.25 'LIL $3.00
The old reliable. Lettuce, Red Cabbage, Carrots, Mushrooms, and Tomatoes. Served with Esperanza dressing. Try it with Cucumbers, Cheddar Cheese, and Bacon.

CAESAR REG $7.00 'LIL $4.25
Traditional–with Romaine, a variety of Croutons, and Parmesan Cheese.

THE BRUTUS REG $8.75
add Jerk or Teriyaki Chicken $9.75
A Caesar salad with everything but the bird! Romaine and Parmesan with Kalamata Olives, Grilled Portobello, Roasted Red Peppers, Roma Tomatoes, and Feta Cheese.

SPINACH REG $8.00 'LIL $4.25
The sailor's favorite! Spinach, Parmesan Cheese, Mushrooms, Tomatoes, and Bacon. Served with Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing

build your own salad

Choose your greens and ingredients

1 PICK A BASE $3.00
Romaine • Salad Mix • Spinach • Spring Mix or Mix any two

2 LOAD UP ON VEGGIES $.35 EACH
Cucumbers • Green Peppers • Banana Peppers • Pepperoncini • Jalapeño Peppers • Roasted Red Peppers • Vine Ripe Tomatoes • Roma Tomatoes • Sun-dried Tomatoes • Artichoke Hearts • Black Olives • Green Olives • Kalamata Olives • Onions • Mushrooms • Portobello • Broccoli • Pineapple

3 CHOOSE YOUR CHEESE $.55 EACH
Cheddar • Mozzarella • Parmesan• Provolone• Bleu Cheese• Fresh Mozzarella• Feta

4 POWER UP ON PROTEIN $1.50 EACH
Avocado • Bacon • Chicken • BBQ Chicken • Jerk Chicken • Pesto Chicken• Teriyaki Chicken • Chicken Herb Vinaigrette Chicken • Ham • Salami• steak• Tempeh • Tofu • BBQ Tofu • Turkey

5 DRESS IT UP!
Choose your salad dressing from the list below.

dressings

Herb Vinaigrette • Spicy Ranch • Caesar • Bleu Cheese • 1000 island • Honey Mustard • Esperanza • Ranch • Balsamic Vinaigrette

All take away salads are served with dressing on the side. Most salads are served with Esperanza, our house dressing. Extra Ounces of Dressing are available for purchase.

pizza

SLICES $2.25
EXTRA INGREDIENT $.75 EACH

cheese pizza prices

	10" SMALL	14" MED.	16" LARGE
	$7.95	$10.05	$12.20
HOUSE SPECIAL Pepperoni, Sausage, Ground Beef, Onions, Green Peppers, Mushrooms, Black Olives, Tomatoes, Ham, Bacon, and extra cheese.	$12.20	$17.30	$23.20
GOURMET WHITE Olive Oil and Garlic with Sun-Dried Tomatoes, Provolone, Mozzarella, Feta, Vine-Ripened Tomatoes and Onions.	$11.40	$17.10	$23.20
MIGHTY MEATY Piled High with Pepperoni, Italian Sausage, Ground Beef, Ham and Bacon.	$11.40	$18.15	$23.20
MEGA VEGGIE Sun-Dried Tomatoes, Spinach, Green Peppers, Mushrooms, Onions, Black Olives, Tomatoes, Broccoli, Feta, Banana Peppers, Artichoke Hearts, and Tofu.	$11.85	$17.30	$22.70
KOSMIC KARMA Sun-Dried Tomatoes, Spinach, Feta, Fresh Tomatoes, and Pesto.	$10.70	$15.10	$21.50
MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR Pesto, Button and Portobello Mushrooms, Spinach, Feta Cheese, and Jalepeños.	$11.90	$17.30	$22.65
FUNKY Q CHICKEN BBQ Chicken, Cheddar Cheese, Caramelized Onions, and Bacon.	$10.85	$17.00	$22.25

calzones

CHEESE $7.95
Add in any ingredients from the list to the right. Ingredient prices for calzones are the same as for a small pizza.

STEAK & CHEESE $9.50
Grilled steak, with Mushrooms, Onions, Green Peppers, and Mozzarella cheese.

CHICKEN & CHEESE $9.30
Grilled or Jerked Chicken, with Mushrooms, Onions, Green Peppers, and Mozzarella Cheese.

HOUSE $8.30
Stuffed with Spinach, Vine-Ripened Tomatoes, Mushrooms, and Mozzarella Cheese.

PHILOSOPHER'S PIE Steak, Portobello Mushrooms Cap, Artichoke Hearts, Kalamata Olives, Provolone, Feta, and Mozzarella Cheeses on an Oil and Garlic Base.	$10.85	$17.00	$22.25
CAESARI CAESARI Olive Oil and Garlic base with Pesto Chicken, Provolone, Mozzarella and Feta Cheeses, topped with a fresh Caesar Salad and Roma Tomatoes.	$10.85	$17.00	$22.25
BUFFALO CHICKEN Hot Buffalo Chicken, Caramelized Onions, Bacon and Mozzarella Cheese, Choice of Bleu Cheese or Spicy Ranch.	$10.85	$17.00	$22.25
HAWAIIAN Ham and Pineapple.	$9.70	$12.70	$15.40

deli hoagies

All Hoagies come with Lettuce, Tomato & Mayo.
Ask about our tasty sides.

CAPRI HALF $4.50 • WHOLE $7.50
Pesto Mayo with Fresh Mozzarella, Ripe Tomatoes, and Basil. Topped with Spring Mix and Herb Vinaigrette and sandwiched on French Bread.

ITALIAN HALF $5.50 • WHOLE $8.50
Ham, Salami, and Pepperoni heated with Fresh Mozzarella, Caramelized Onions, Basil, Tomatoes, Spring Mix, and Herb Vinaigrette.

MUSHROOM CLUB HALF $5.50 • WHOLE $8.50
Piled high with Ham, Turkey, and Bacon, heated with Provolone Cheese, Caramelized Onions, and Mushrooms, topped with Sprouts.

HAM & CHEESE HALF $4.50 • WHOLE $7.50
Premium Deli Ham heated with Provolone Cheese and Onions and topped with Sprouts.

TURKEY AND CHEESE HALF $4.75 • WHOLE $8.00
Turkey Breast heated with Provolone Cheese and Onions and topped with Sprouts.

AVOCADO HALF $4.50 • WHOLE $7.75
Sprinkled with Lemon Juice, then placed on heated French or Wheat Bread and melted Provolone Cheese, Onions and Sprouts.

B.L.T. HALF $4.50 • WHOLE $7.50
Provolone Cheese, Onions and Bacon, heated, and topped with Sprouts.

grilled hoagies

IRV'S SAUSAGE & PEPPERS
HALF $5.50 • WHOLE $8.50
Sausage Links, stuffed with caramelized Onions, Green Peppers, and Provolone cheese. Garnished with Deli Mustard.

PORTOBELLO & CHEESE
HALF $4.50 • WHOLE $8.00
A grilled Portobello Mushroom Cap big enough to wear on your head basted with Garlic Butter and accompanied by Artichoke Hearts, Sun Dried Tomatoes, Spinach, and Feta. Garnished with Sprouts.

STEAK AND CHEESE HALF $5.00 • WHOLE $8.50
Grilled Steak and Mushrooms, Onions, and Green Peppers, smothered with Provolone Cheese, Try it with Bacon and extra Cheese. Or ask for the Black and Bleu-same Hoagie, but with Bleu Cheese instead of Provolone.

MEATBALL HALF $4.00 • WHOLE $7.50
Meatballs, smothered in tangy Marinara and melty Mozzarella. Try it with grilled Mushrooms & Onions.

CHICKEN PARMESAN HALF $5.50 • WHOLE $8.50
Grilled Chicken, baked with Marinara and Mozzarella Cheese and kissed with Oregano.

TOFU HALF $4.50 • WHOLE $7.50
French or Wheat Bread, with Teriyaki grilled Tofu, covered with Provolone Cheese and garnished with grilled Mushrooms, Onions and Green Peppers, topped with Sprouts.

TEMPEH HALF $5.00 • WHOLE $8.75
Marinated grilled Tempeh, covered with Feta Cheese and garnished with grilled Mushrooms, Onions, and Green Peppers. Served with Sprouts and Pesto Mayo.

CHICKEN & CHEESE HALF $5.50 • WHOLE $8.50
Chicken grilled with Teriyaki, Mushrooms, Onions and Green Peppers. Smothered with Provolone Cheese.

JERK CHICKEN HALF $5.50 • WHOLE $8.50
Grilled Mushrooms, Onions, Green Peppers, spicy Jerk Chicken, and Pineapple. With Spinach, Feta, and Pesto Mayo.

ingredients

bases
Olive Oil and Garlic
Pesto
Red
Barbeque

fruits & veggies
Artichoke Hearts
Banana Peppers
Black Olives
Broccoli
Fresh Basil
Fresh Garlic
Green Olives
Green Peppers
Jalapeños
Kalamata Olives
Mushrooms
Onions
Pepperocini
Pesto
Pineapple
Portobello*
Roasted Red Peppers
Roma Tomatoes
Spinach
Sun-Dried Tomatoes
Tomatoes

Small $.95
Medium $1.40
Large $1.70

proteins
Anchovies
Avocado
Bacon
BBQ Chicken*
BBQ Tofu
Buffalo Chicken*
Chicken*
Ground Beef
Ham
Italian Sausage
Jerk Chicken*
Meatballs*
Pepperoni
Pesto Chicken*
Pesto Tofu
Salami
Steak*
Tofu
Turkey

Small $1.50
Medium $2.00
Large $2.50

cheese
Blue Cheese
Cheddar
Extra Mozzarella
Feta
Fresh Mozzarella
Parmesan
Provolone
Ricotta

Small $1.25
Medium $1.90
Large $2.10

*counts as 2 ingredients

Top 10 Local Products in My Kitchen

BY CLAUDIA ALARCÓN

Now that I have the kitchen of my dreams after last year's remodel, I've been cooking and entertaining much more, and many Austin-made ingredients and products find their way into my kitchen. Here's a list of some (but not all) of my favorites.

1) Rio's Malagueta sauces: An exotic taste of Brazil, these sauces are perfect as marinades, dips, or salad dressings. A slight spiciness adds a delicious kick. They're great, of course, to accompany Rio's homemade pastries.

2) Homemade chorizo from Las Delicias: The South Austin family-owned meat market makes the best Mexican-style chorizo around, perfectly spiced, without fillers or tons of fat. It's available in links or bulk.

3) Bolillos from El Fénix Bakery: The closest thing to real Mexican bolillos and the best in Austin, bar none. Crusty on the outside, soft on the inside, and they are huge!

4) Sgt. Pepper's Chipotle del Sol: This spicy, smoky seasoning is my secret ingredient for making great queso. Mixed with kosher salt, it makes a great rim for Bloody Marys, margaritas, and micheladas.

5) Gitcho Michelada Mix: Speaking of micheladas, this mix is the closest I've found to my own blend. It's great in a pinch, and with an extra squeeze of lime, I have used it as a tequila chaser in lieu of sangrita.

6) Zhi Tea: Zhi's soothing Sweet Desert Delight red-tea blend, with coconut, cacao nibs, star anise, and cinnamon, is my latest addiction, especially after a nice meal on a cold night.

7) Pistachio & Roasted Pepper Dip from Classy Delites: This stuff is so good, I eat it with a spoon right out of the jar, but it's also great as a dip for chips or veggies, as a topping for burgers or sandwiches, or with grilled chicken or pork.

8) Spiceburst Savory Pomegranate Glaze: Sweet, salty, and tangy, this delectable glaze goes amazingly well on roast pork and fowl, but I also like to mix a dab with lemon juice or balsamic vinegar for a quick and unusual salad dressing.



JOHN ANDERSON

9) Cocoa Puro Kakáwa Cocoa Beans: These impossibly addictive bites of freshly roasted cocoa beans covered in layers of white, milk, and dark chocolate and rolled in pure cocoa powder must be the reason why the scientific name of the chocolate tree means "food of the gods."

10) Veldhuizen artisanal cheeses: Made in Dublin, Texas, from grass-fed, free-range cows' milk, these amazing cheeses will knock your socks off. Personal favorites are the Bosque Blue and the Paragon, but there's nothing wrong with the awesome Caraway Cheddar.

www.DailyJuice.org
1625 Barton Springs Rd.
(512) 480-9501
2307 Lake Austin Blvd.
(512) 628-0782
4500 Duval Road
(512) 380-9046
DAILY JUICE
AUSTIN'S FULL SERVICE JUICE BAR
We have durian smoothies!

ChonSom
ช้อน ส้อม Asian Cuisine & Sushi Bar
•NEW YEAR'S EVE•
FIVE COURSE DINNER • CHOOSE SUSHI OR THAI
COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT
RESERVATIONS SUGGESTED
•NEW YEAR'S DAY•
SERVING DINNER 4-9PM
START THE YEAR WITH A FREE CUP OF
OUR FAMOUS HANGOVER SOUP
OPEN TUESDAY-SUNDAY FOR LUNCH AND DINNER
2013 WELLS BRANCH #109 • 512.989.5559 • chonsom.com

OSTERIA PRIMIZIE CAFE
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
PRIMIZIE OSTERIA WILL FEATURE A SPECIAL FIVE COURSE FIXED PRICE MENU TO CELEBRATE NEW YEARS EVE FOR $85, GRATUITY NOT INCLUDED. SEATINGS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 6:00PM UNTIL 10:00 PM. STAY AND RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH OUR EXTENDED BAR HOURS UNTIL MIDNIGHT.
Antipasti
TEXAS AXIS VENISON TARTARE WITH QUAIL EGG YOLK AND GULF OYSTERS WITH LEMON GELATO
BROKEN ARROW RANCH- INGRAM TX, SAN MIGUEL SEAFOOD-CORPUS CHRISTI TX FRESH VENISON LOIN, FOLDED WITH EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL, AGED SPANISH SHERRY VINEGAR, FRESH HERBS, SEA SALT AND QUAIL EGG YOLK ASIDE GULF OF MEXICO OYSTERS ON THE HALF SHELL WITH LEMON GELATO AND PINE NUT BRUSCHETTA.
• SERVED WITH A COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF PROSECCO FROZZA •
Primii Piatti
MUSCOVY DUCK CONFIT CRESCENZA AGNOLOTTI
COUNTRYSIDE FARM-CEDAR CREEK TX, MOZZARELLA CO- DALLAS TX, KITCHEN PRIDE- GONZALES TX
CURED OLIVE OIL BRAISED PULLED MUSCOVY DUCK AND CRECENZA CHEESE PASTA POCKET WITH GOLD OYSTER MUSHROOM FINISHED WITH SANGIOVESE COFFEE REDUCTION AND LOCAL PARMESAN CHEESE
Secondi di Pesce
RED SNAPPER - WILD GULF SHRIMP MEYER LEMON TANGERINE ZABAGLIONE
SAN MIGUEL SEAFOOD-CORPUS CHRISTI TX, SPEDALE FAMILY GARDEN-HOUSTON TX, OAK HILL FARM-POTEET TX
PAN SEARED GULF SNAPPER AND WILD JUMBO SHRIMP WITH BRAISED FENNEL FINISHED WITH CITRUS ZABAGLIONE AND FRIED TANGERINE AND MEYER LEMONS
Secondi di Carne
LAMB OSSO BUCO, BACON CAULIFLOWER CUSTARD, WHITE TRUFFLE POTATO
LONCITOS LAMB-DINERO TX, FINCA PURA VIDA-FAYETTEVILLE TX, FULL QUIVER FARM- KEMP TX PECAN SMOKED AND BRAISED LAMB SHANK WITH A BACON CAULIFLOWER FLAN, WHITE TRUFFLE POTATO AND RED WINE REDUCTION SAUCE
Dolci
WHITE CHOCOLATE MOUSSE WITH CHAMPAGNE GRANITA AND LOCAL BLOOD ORANGE COMPOTE
A COMPLETE VEGETARIAN MENU WILL BE AVAILABLE.
FRESH LOCAL SPECIALS
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. PLEASE CALL 236-0088

WWW.THEALLIGATORGRILL.COM
512 444-6117 SOUTH
3003 S. LAMAR AUSTIN
THE ALLIGATOR GRILL
FAT TUESDAYS
$4.00 HURRICANES
20¢ SHRIMP
50¢ OYSTERS
$4.00 ABITA BEERS

YAHALA
Hookah Lounge
6617 Airport
467-2233
AUSTINHOOKAHLOUNGE.COM
SN-W 6P-1A TH 6P-2A F-SA 6P-3A
Austin's hot spot for relaxing, socializing, and smoking hookahs

Join us for New Years!
Join us for our New Years dinner and wine specials. Make your reservations now or at our other fine restaurants!
34th
34THSTREETCAFE.COM
1005 W. 34TH ST. 371-3400
ALSO TRY OUR OTHER RESTAURANTS:
BLUESTARCAFETERIA.COM
SANTARITACANTINA.COM

NOW OPEN
1917 MANOR ROAD
www.redhousepizza.com
THE RED HOUSE PIZZERIA

El CHILE
Cafe y Cantina
El Original
1809 MANOR ROAD
El Nuevo
3435 GREYSTONE
www.elchilecafe.com

Numero Uno
2219 MANOR ROAD
Numero Dos
918 CONGRESS AVE
www.elchilito.com
El CHILITO
TACOS Y CAFE

frank & angie's

Frank & Angie's might just be the pie enthusiast's best bet; its great thin crust version is accompanied by reasonably priced, classic home-style dishes named after famous Italians and served with a bit of nostalgic attitude, making it great for a casual date especially those on a budget. - Zagat

Friendly staff and quick service are especially good given the volume of business this pizzeria does. What shines at Frank & Angie's is the pizza. The sauce is made daily, the crust is thin and crisp, toppings are fresh, and the cheese blend is delicious, a bit salty, and carmelized beautifully at the edges. Don't miss the cannoli for dessert. It's one of the best in town. - Fearless Critic

Beautifully baked, thin, chewy crust holds sauce and mozzarella cheese packing incredible flavor. Forks up. One of the "Standouts of Austin's Best Pizza." - Dale Rice, *American Statesman*

If you think pizza parlors should be low-key, colorful - and, of course, have great pizza - you've come to the right place. - Frommer's

Frank & Angie's is the closest you can get to Brooklyn in Austin. From great pizza and excellent pasta to the Sinatra memorabilia on the walls, this place is bellisimo! - *Insite Magazine*

In defiance of the Austin area's college-fueled pizza saturation, Frank & Angie's has fought its way to the top of the pack with its unique, New York-style pizza, ingredient-intensive calzones, and a general Brooklyn-esque atmosphere. - City Guides

Great freakin' pizza! – Tibetan Monks

508 West Ave • 472-3534 • hutsfrankandangies.com

Hut's

Voted "Best Burger"
by *Austin Chronicle* readers
Every year for the past 22 years

Emeril's Favorite Burger Joint
as announced on Good Morning America

'Nuff said

807 W. 6th Street • 472-0693 • www.hutsfrankandangies.com







restaurant roulette

ESTIMATED MEAL COST PER PERSON

$ <$10 **$$** $10-25 **$$$** $25-40 **$$$$** $40+

DOWNTOWN

AMERICAN CAFE: **HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE** Jam-packed come lunchtime. Food bar, above-average hamburgers, and a New Orleans-style breakfast menu. ***800 Congress, 477-8968.*** **www.hickorystreet.com**. *$$*

AMERICAN CAFE: **RANCH 616** The venison chili Frito pie won the Critics Pick for Best Retro Game Dish in the 2006 Restaurant Poll, but others go for the fried oysters. ***616 Nueces, 479-7616.*** **www.ranch616.ypguides.net**. *$*

BARBECUE: **HOUSE PARK BAR-B-QUE** No-frills mesquite-smoked brisket, pork loin, sausage, and chicken plates and sandwiches, served from the same smoke-redolent shack since 1949. ***900 W. 12th, 472-9621. $***

BURGER JOINT, PUB GRUB: **CASINO EL CAMINO** Famous for huge and juicy burgers with a variety of toppings, excellent hot dogs smothered in chili, and great hand-cut french fries. Great jukebox, too. ***517 E. Sixth, 469-9330.*** **www.casinoelcamino.net**. *$*

CAJUN/CREOLE, PUB GRUB: **SHOAL CREEK SALOON** A Cajun oasis next to Shoal Creek, with great Southern Louisiana chow, ice-cold beer, and a warm and fuzzy ambience. It's the friendliest sports bar in town. ***909 N. Lamar, 474-0805.*** **www.shoalcreeksaloon.com**. *$$*

FINE DINING, SOUTHWESTERN: **ROARING FORK** The rustic decor – all stone, metal, leather, and antlers – and hearty Western entrées and robust side dishes are a carnivore's dream. ***701 Congress, 583-0000.*** **www.roaringfork.com**. *$$$*

FINE DINING, STEAK HOUSE: **SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE** The perfect meal here is the 24-ounce Cowboy Ribeye, along with its justifiably famous wedge of iceberg, slathered with a decadent blue cheese dressing. ***300 Colorado #200, 495-6504.*** **www.sullivansteakhouse.com**. *$$$$*

JAPANESE: **KYOTO** This elder statesman of Japanese restaurants offers scrumptious sushi and other Asian fare. Nonsushi items cover the basics in Japanese cuisine, but don't expect surprises. ***315 Congress #200, 482-9010.*** **www.kyotodowntown.com**. *$$$$*

PUB GRUB: **JOE'S BAR & GRILL** You'll find hi-def flat-screens on every wall and some of the best upscale comfort food in town, from the folks at Louie's 106. ***506 West, 473-0885. $$***

STEAK HOUSE: **HOFFBRAU STEAKS** A vestige of old Austin since 1934 and an icon for generations, the Hoffbrau serves up steak, potatoes, and beer in a former feed store. ***613 W. Sixth, 472-0822.*** **www.originalhoffbrausteaks.com**. *$$*

TEX-MEX: **NUEVO LEÓN TACO EXPRESS** The satellite location of this Eastside favorite is only open for breakfast and lunch, but you'll find the same chile con queso, tacos, and combination dinners that you crave. ***1500 San Jacinto, 236-8226. $***

EAST

AMERICAN CAFE, FINE DINING: **EASTSIDE CAFE** The only restaurant in town with its own enormous garden. That means it serves the freshest salads and vegetables in every season. ***2113 Manor Rd., 476-5858.*** **www.eastsidecafeaustin.com**. *$$$*

AMERICAN CAFE, PUB GRUB: **BIKINIS SPORTS BAR & GRILL** Some say the minihamburgers here are the best in town. Happy hour draws a crowd, and so do the 31 TVs for the sports set. ***6901 N. I-35, 454-2247.*** **www.bikinissportsbarandgrill.com**. *$$*

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR** Grab a satisfying coffee drink, some homemade pastries, and a breakfast taco, and enjoy the lovely, tree-shaded patio. Mediterranean specialties, courtesy of Ararat, are available as well. ***2401 E. Sixth, 476-6262.*** **www.myspace.com/hotmamasespresso**. *$*

BARBECUE: **BEN'S LONG BRANCH BAR-B-Q** Smokin' good barbecue with deep historic roots. Solid sides, killer cobbler and banana pudding, a great beer selection, and fork-tender meats keep the hungry coming back. ***900 E. 11th, 477-2516.*** **www.benslongbranchbarb.ypgs.net**. *$*

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **LOS COMALES GRACIELA** Expert purveyors of real Norteño-style grilled meats and side dishes. Reliable Interior dishes such as *puerco en chile colorado* and *pollo en mole poblano* round out the menu. ***2136 E. Seventh, 480-9358. $$***

SOUTH AMERICAN: **EL ZUNZAL RESTAURANT** A cozy, comfortable place serving Mexican and Salvadoran specialties. We recommend the *arroz con albóndigas*, the *mariscadas*, and the *pupusas*. ***642 Calles, 474-7749.*** **www.enaustin.com/zunzal.html**. *$$*

TEX-MEX: **BEJUCO'S RESTAURANT** *Cabrito*, enchiladas, tamales, and chile rellenos. Not open 24 hours like the sign outside says, but at this place you can get three squares a day. ***2711-A E. Cesar Chavez, 476-7878. $$***

TEX-MEX: **TAQUERIA MORELIA** offers a great fajita special on Wednesdays, 11am-3pm, served in a quiet, relaxing environment. ***105 Tillery, 385-8002. $***

TEX-MEX: **TRES AMIGOS RESTAURANT & CANTINA** Find all conceivable combos of menu items, plus specials such as chile rellenos, chimichangas, fish Veracruz, and steak *tampiqueño*. ***7535 Hwy. 290 E., 926-4441.*** **www.tresamigos.com**. *$$*

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: **MR. NATURAL** A juice bar, bakery, health-food store, and vegetarian Mexican restaurant in one: your one-stop shop for soybean ceviche, pineapple empanadas, and queen bee royal jelly. ***1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228.*** **www.mrnatural-austin.com**. *$*

LAKE

PUB GRUB: **ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE** Check out one of the 55-inch, hi-def TVs, and wash down an excellent chicken-fried chicken with the coldest beer around. ***21815 Hwy. 71 W., 264-3777.*** **www.angelsicehouse.com**. *$*

NORTH

CHINESE: **MANDARIN HOUSE** A respectable and frequently replenished lunch and dinner buffet is the main attraction here. Popular items include General Tso's chicken and above-average egg rolls. ***8929 N. Lamar, 837-6361.*** **www.austinmandarinhouse.com**. *$$*

INDIAN: **SHALIMAR RESTAURANT** Pakistani food that's second to none and a *gosht karahi* that'll really get your goat. Try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. ***9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700.*** **www.shalimar-austin.com**. *$$*

JAPANESE: **MIKADO RYOTEI** Not just for sushi, Mikado also serves Japanese tapas, or *robata*, a mix of grilled seafood, meats, and vegetables. A great date spot. ***9033 Research, 833-8188.*** **www.mikadoryotei.com**. *$$$*

SEAFOOD, SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **MR. CATFISH** Don't get so caught up with the boudin balls that you miss the terrific down-home specials and sides. ***850 E. Rundberg, 997-7878. $***

SOUTH AMERICAN: **CAFE MANGÙ CARIBBEAN BISTRO** *Muy autentico* from Dominica, Cuba, and Puerto Rico served lovingly from a bright-yellow house. Enjoy *lechón* pork that melts in your mouth, a killer Cubano sandwich, or *ropa vieja* by the pound. ***15200 FM 1825, 990-3121. $$***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** It's unusual to find both Southern comfort food and great steaks under the same roof. This place has been slinging three hots a day long enough to make it work. ***11800 N. Lamar #6, 835-2414.*** **www.greencity.com/cafeross.htm**. *$$*

TEX-MEX: **EL TACORRIDO** In addition to standard breakfast-taco fare (bacon, egg, potato, chorizo, etc.), this place serves chicken, carnitas, and barbacoa tacos, as well as burritos. ***9320 N. Lamar, 873-8602.*** **www.tacorrido.com**. *$*

THAI: **BANGKOK CUISINE** This restaurant boasts a clientele loyal to the array of stellar vegetarian dishes, and the pad thai (with or without meat) is said to be memorable. ***9041 Research, 832-9722. $$***

VIETNAMESE: **LE SOLEIL** One of the original Sunflower folks brings us a similar menu with a few new tweaks. Bottom line: It's good and dependable, and it's a fave of Viet families. ***9616 N. Lamar #156, 821-0396. $$***

NORTH CENTRAL

BURGER JOINT, TEX-MEX: **JALAPENO JOE'S** Present yourself at the window, and order an Angus-beef burger or the pile of Tex-Mex sustenance known as the Alonzo Platter, but save room for Ernest's Enchiladas. ***4905 Airport, 451-3326.*** **www.jalapenojoes.com**. *$*

CHINESE: **WANFU III** Diner-style Chinese! Stop in sometime after shopping at Highland Mall, it will become a favorite. ***6801 Airport, 459-5200. $$***

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **NEWORLDELI** This concept cafe stresses customer comfort, and that starts with offering lunch for less than $5. ***4101 Guadalupe, 451-7170.*** **www.newworlddeli.com**. *$*

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: **ASTI TRATTORIA** For various Italian regional cuisines and an extensive wine list of mostly Italian and Cal-Ital selections, try this Hyde Park corner spot. ***408-C E. 43rd, 451-1218.*** **www.astiaustin.com**. *$$$*

CONTINUED ON P.42





Mama Fu's™
asian house

DELIVERY AND
ONLINE ORDERING
NOW AVAILABLE
www.MamaFus.com

HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY 3PM-6PM
Sundays Kids Eat Free

NOW OPEN!
Colorado &
Cesar Chavez
637-6774

The Triangle
at 46th &
Lamar
637-6773

The Grove at
Southpark
Meadows
637-6772

Hwy 183 at
Lakeline
Boulevard
637-6771

$5 OFF
A LARGE PIZZA
OR DINNER ENTREE
Not valid with other offers

MONDAY
NIGHT
MADNESS
BUY A LARGE
PIZZA AND GET
A MEDIUM PIZZA
OF SAME OR
LESSER VALUE
FOR FREE

TEN FOR TEN
TUESDAYS
10 GREAT WINES
FOR $10 A BOTTLE

MUST PRESENT COUPON
LIMIT ONE PER TABLE
EXPIRES 1/23/09

the Brick Oven



Arboretum
Jollyville Rd 345-6181

Downtown
12th & Red River
477-7006

South
Brodie & Slaughter
292-3939

Péché

Absinthe & Food

Happy Hour 4-8
$5 Sandwiches and Fritis
$5 Adult Milkshakes
$3 House Made Lemoncellos

Noir Sundays
Happy Hour All Day
$5 Pernod Absinthe

208 W. 4th Street

Brunch...Spanish Style

Málaga
TAPAS & BAR

"Inspired by the fare that has made Spain famous!"

Sample Menu
(All items served with fresh fruit and toast or spicy potatoes)
Manchego cheese and Serrano ham omelette Fried eggs over seared beef
Poached eggs over chicken & Serrano ham croquettes
Orange & Cinnamon Spanish Style French Toast

Enjoy $1.00
(with the purchase of entrée, limit 3pp)

Agua de Valencia Spanish Mimosa
Made with fresh orange juice, Licor 43
and Cava Champagne

Sangria Blanco, Tinto or Rosado
Made with brandy, orange juice
and fresh fruit

Every Saturday & Sunday 11:30am - 2:30pm

440 W 2nd St. Austin, Texas • 512-236-8020 • www.malagatapasbar.com

SHOAL CREEK SALOON
Catfish Color T.V.
RIB-EYE NIGHT
EVERY THURSDAY
1 POUND RIB-EYE
WITH FRIES $12.99

909 N. Lamar
512.474.0805
CHECK OUT OUR
DAILY SPECIALS AT
SHOALCREEKSALOON.COM

MESA RANCH
A TRUE TEXAS GRILL
NEW YEAR'S EVE
4-COURSE MEAL
LIVE MUSIC
RESERVE YOUR SEATING NOW! 5, 7, OR 9PM
CHAMPAGNE TOAST AT MIDNIGHT
SOUTH
2220 S I-35 @ OLTORF • 916-8787
NORTH
8108 MESA DR. • 853-9480
MESARANCHAUSTIN.COM

POLVOS
INTERIOR MEXICAN FOOD
HAPPY HOUR • 4PM-7PM • M-F
$4.50 Margaritas • $3.50 Imports
OPEN • 7AM-10PM • Every Day
2004 SOUTH FIRST • 441-5446

Chuy's®
STATE WIDE BABY ELVIS
TEXAS TRIBUTE
BIRTHDAY BASH
JAN 8TH 2009
AUSTIN • DALLAS
SAN ANTONIO
HOUSTON

See Elvis LIVE at these locations
on Thursday, January 8th:
1728 Barton Springs Rd 11680 N Research Blvd
10520 N Lamar Blvd 2320 N IH-35 in Round Rock
4301 W Wm Cannon @ MoPac
Visit www.chuys.com for more details

FOOD

RESTAURANT ROULETTE CONTINUED FROM P.40

INDIAN: **TAJ PALACE** Austin's longest-established local Indian restaurant, where the royal-court cuisine of North India is served in an attractive setting. ***6700 Middle Fiskville, 452-9959. $$***

ITALIAN: **CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL** Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. ***6406 N. I-35, 419-1220.*** **www.carrabbas.com**. ***$$$***

MEDITERRANEAN, PIZZA: **ARPEGGIO GRILL** Try this much-loved neighborhood spot for 25 flavors of tasty wings, an interesting selection of pizzas, and a full complement of Mediterranean dishes prepared from family recipes. ***6619 Airport, 419-0110. $***

PIZZA: **THE PARLOR** Great pizza, overflowing pitchers, and a punk feel come together amid the strains of a stellar jukebox. ***100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965.*** **www.myspace.com/theparlor**. ***$$***

SEAFOOD: **CAPT. BENNY'S SEAFOOD** A full range of both fried and broiled seafood in the boat formerly occupied by the Captain's Seafood & Oyster Bar. ***5700 N. I-35, 452-1417.*** **www.captbennys.com**. ***$$***

SOUTH

BARBECUE: **AUSTIN'S BARBECUE** What a feast: Ethereal pancakes, fluffy omelets, homemade hash browns, and ancho-chile-spiked barbecue sauce compete with really wonderful hamburgers. Try the chorizo burger. Seriously. ***6002 Burleson, 382-2105. $***

CHINESE: **CHINA EMPEROR** Definitely try the General Tso's chicken, featuring a sinus-clearing spice rating. The hot and sour soup also leaves a pleasant, peppery afterburn. ***111 W. William Cannon #312, 443-2922. $$***

INDONESIAN: **JAVA NOODLES** Find exotic Indonesian fare and a menu demanding exploration by the adventurous. Lunch and Sunday brunch are among the best bargains in town. ***2400 E. Oltorf #14 & #15, 443-5282. $$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Its menu of breakfast specialties is available all day. Try the Omelette del Sol or the Omelette de la Luna. Live music on weekend evenings. ***1224 S. Congress, 444-7770.*** **www.elsolylalunaaustin.com**. ***$$***

JAPANESE: **ZEN JAPANESE FOOD FAST** You have to work pretty hard to spend more than $7 here. When we want fast, fresh, and tasty food, we head to one of the three locations. ***1303 S. Congress, 444-8081.*** **www.eatzen.com**. ***$***

SEAFOOD: **JOE'S CRAB SHACK** Broiled, grilled, or blackened seafood platters; cold shrimp by the bucket; and lots of giggling birthday parties are what you'll find here on most nights. ***600 E. Riverside, 441-1010.*** **www.joescrabshack.com**. ***$$***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **BROKEN SPOKE** When you need your Lone Star cold, your chicken-fried steak hot, and the ghost of Ernest Tubb on your shoulder, the Spoke is it. ***3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189.*** **www.brokenspokeaustintx.com**. ***$$***

SOUTHWESTERN: **SOUTH CONGRESS CAFE** The inspired Southwestern fare at this relaxed, upscale eatery features blue-corn crepes and beef Milanesa, a traditional dish with an inventive, spicy spin. Other distinctive dishes include venison meat loaf and Cajun scampi. ***1600 S. Congress, 447-3905.*** **www.southcongresscafe.com**. ***$$***

STEAK HOUSE: **COPPER RESTAURANT & BAR** An underappreciated gem serving well-prepared, reasonably priced steaks and generous, tasty sides in a casual atmosphere. ***300 S. Congress, 480-8797.*** **www.embassysuites.com/en/es/hotels/dining.jhtml?ctyhocn=AUSLKES#0**. ***$$***

TEX-MEX: **EL FLACO** Mexican food just like your *abuela* used to make: hearty servings, all made from scratch, and breakfast anytime you want it. ***3632 S. Congress, 444-2767. $***

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: **MR. NATURAL** Both a health-food grocery and 100% vegetarian restaurant. Don't miss the cucumber salad, the perfect cool accompaniment to dishes like nopalitos, enchiladas verdes, and soya guisada. ***2414-A S. Lamar, 916-9223.*** **www.mrnatural-austin.com**. ***$***

UT

AMERICAN CAFE: **HOLE IN THE WALL** Music: It's not just for breakfast anymore. Food is finally back on the menu here. Try a burger at one of the picnic tables in back. ***2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747.*** **www.myspace.com/holeinthewallaustin**. ***$***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **TEXAS FRENCH BREAD** Still the perfect place to duck in for a scone, pastry, and cup of coffee. Check out the sandwich menu for light lunch fare. ***3213 Red River, 478-8794.*** **www.texasfrenchbread.com**. ***$***

CHINESE: **HOA-HOA RESTAURANT** Basic Chinese. Reasonably priced lunch specials with vegetarian options. Delivery available. ***2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 505-0155.*** **www.hoahoadobie.com**. ***$***

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DELIVERY: **FOODHEADS** Morning fare consists of cappuccino, espresso, pastries, and breakfast tacos. By lunchtime, you can choose from a staggering array of sandwiches, soups, salads, and side dishes. ***616 W. 34th, 420-8400.*** **www.foodheads.com**. ***$***

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **SPICY PICKLE** Panini, salads, subs, and soup with 21 different toppings and 10 varieties of cheese. ***404 W. 26th, 473-8441.*** **www.spicypickle.com**. ***$***

FRENCH, JAPANESE: **WEFUSE** Formerly the Fuse Box, this spot serves up fresh salads such as cranberry with goat cheese and shrimp and melon. The bento boxes are varied and reasonably priced. ***2025 Guadalupe #152 (Dobie Mall, first floor), 236-0207.*** **www.wefuse.net**. ***$***

MEDITERRANEAN: **EL GRECO** Using generations of family recipes, chef Jake Konstantinidis delivers truly authentic Greek cuisine that appeals to diverse palates. Check out the vegan items. ***3016 Guadalupe Ste. C-200, 47-GREEK.*** **www.elgrecoaustin.com**. ***$$***

PUB GRUB: **POSSE EAST** Beer and burgers for the pre-, post-, and during-the-game crowds. In-house ATM for those who fit into all three categories. Try the Sheriff's Sandwich while you check out six flat-screens. ***2900 Duval St., 477-2111. $***

TEX-MEX: **HORNITOS TEX-MEX CAFE** You'll get a square deal and a fresh meal at this no-frills Tex-Mex spot. ***3704 N. I-35, 524-4195. $***

WEST

AMERICAN CAFE: **BLUE STAR CAFETERIA** Find an upscale comfort-food menu that is both affordable and inviting. Try the homemade cobbler. ***4800 Burnet Rd., 454-7827.*** **www.bluestarcafeteria.com**. ***$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **COUNTER CAFE** The crowd is attracted by the simple menu based on locally sourced, naturally raised, and often organic ingredients, paired with down-home friendliness. ***626 N. Lamar, 708-8800. $***

CHINESE: **ASIA CAFE** Funky counter service in the back of the Asia Market grocery provides the best and most authentic Chinese food in town. Unadulterated Sichuan cuisine well worth the drive from anywhere. ***8650 Spicewood Springs Rd. #115, 331-5780.*** **www.asiamarketaustin.com**. ***$***

INDIAN: **BOMBAY BISTRO** The new raja in town. Everything we've had has been amazingly good: complex and richly layered sauces and superb breads from a large and unique menu. ***10710 Research #126, 342-2252.*** **www.bombay-bistro.com**. ***$$***

INTERNATIONAL: **THE GROVE WINE BAR & KITCHEN** The wine list offers 50 by the glass or 250 by the bottle, for either on-premise drinking or to take home. Make your selections, order the bruschetta plate ($9.50), and you'll have a very nice, small meal. ***6317 Bee Caves Rd., 327-8822.*** **www.grovewinebar.com**. ***$$***

PERSIAN: **ALBORZ PERSIAN CUISINE** Comfortable and unpretentious, Alborz captures the essentials of Persia's rich and astoundingly varied culinary heritage. The daily lunch buffet is highly recommended. ***3300 W. Anderson #30, 420-2222.*** **www.alborzpersiancuisine.com**. ***$$***

PIZZA: **ORIGINAL DAVID'S BRICK OVEN** Serves some of the best home-style, thin-crust pizzas in town with a personal touch. ***1608 W. 35th, 453-4330.*** **www.brickovenon35th.com**. ***$$***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **THREADGILL'S OLD NO. 1** Fried-catfish dinners at Threadgill's have been a popular menu item as long as the restaurants have been open in Austin. ***6416 N. Lamar, 451-5440.*** **www.threadgills.com**. ***$$***

THAI: **THAI SPICE** Owned and operated by female chefs Vicki Vicha and Orasinee Ratana-Apron, both locations have similar menus, offering fresh, fast, reliable versions of traditional Thai dishes. ***701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 330-0203.*** **www.thaispiceaustin.com**. ***$$***

Majic 95.5 Continuous Soft Favorites
Your workday is repetitious enough...

Your Radio Station Shouldn't Be
Home of the
9-5 No Repeat Workday!
Listen Online at www.Majic.com

CARTWRIGHT'S
Famous
BAR★B★Q
BYOB

Too busy to cook!!
Try our "Little Joe"
1.5 lbs meats 2 pints side orders
plus fixin's (feed 3-4) for $19.99

WE CATER as low as $6.99 pp
(call for details).

All you can eat Bar-B-Q
only $14.99 on Sunday

50% OFF
BUY ONE PLATE
at regular price get
2nd one HALF PRICE!
of equal or less value,
VALID after 4PM ONE PER GROUP
not valid with other offers.
Exp: JAN. 30 2009

12005 Hwy 290 W (6 miles W of the Oak Hill "Y")
Mon-Thu 10:30-8 Fri-Sat 10:30-9 Sun 11-8
288-7879

New location coming soon FEB, 2009 in the Grove
at Southpark Meadows next to Quiznos 9600 South IH 35.
Website: www.cartwrightsfamousbbq.com

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
restaurant guide
THOUSANDS OF RESTAURANTS SEARCHABLE
BY CUISINE TYPE AND AREA OF TOWN
THE CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/guides/restaurant

ZAX
An American bistro
at the corner of Riverside and Barton Springs
481-0100 • www.zaxaustin.com

CHOOSE FROM:
OUR FULL MENU OR
PRIX FIXE DINNER ($50 PER PERSON)

CHAMPAGNE TOAST
AT MIDNIGHT

CALL NOW FOR RESERVATIONS

celebrate
new year's eve
at Zax New Years Eve Hours: 11am-1am

MAIKO
SUSHI LOUNGE

SUSHI.
COCKTAILS.
N.Y.E.

CALL FOR DETAILS.
SPACE IS
LIMITED.
MAKE YOUR
RESERVATION
TODAY.

(512) 236 9888
311 WEST 6TH STREET
WWW.MAIKOAUSTIN.COM

Happy Hour
$1 AND UP MEXICAN TAPAS
& DRINK SPECIALS
Daily 5-7

★ NEW HAPPY HOUR MENU ADDITIONS!
We are expanding our Happy Hour offerings to include some exciting new items. Join us in our bar or patio for a special happy hour menu daily from 5 to 7 and try our Tenderloin Taco Maki or our Shrimp and Avocado Ceviche.

★ DRINK SPECIALS

$5.00 Rio Marg (rocks, frozen, straw, mango)
$4.00 Chamborita
$4.00 House Wine (Chardonnay, Cabernet, Merlot)
$2.00 Drafts (Fat Tire, Shiner Bock, XX Lager, Bud Light)
$2.00 Patron Kami Shot
$1.00 Spinach Empanada
$1.00 Bean and Cheese Empanada
$1.00 Guac and Sour
$2.00 Chile Con Queso
$2.00 Mesquite Chicken Quesadilla
$2.00 Brisket Quesadilla
$2.00 Chicken Empanada
$2.50 Stuffed Queso
$3.00 Shrimp and Avo Ceviche
$5.00 Tender Taco Maki

DOWNTOWN AT
3RD & SAN JACINTO
476-8300
VISIT: RIOAUSTIN.COM

RIO GRANDE
Mexican Restaurant

the screaming goat
tacos y cerveza
900 w. 10th street | 477-GOAT
www.thescreaminggoat.com

tacos
burritos
flautas ahogadas
quesadillas
tortas
tostadas
burgers
breakfast tacos
&
the freshest
queso & salsas

Dine In
&
Take Out
477-GOAT



TOP 10 OF 2008

BY JOE O'CONNELL

1) **No. 1 film scene draws battle lines.**
MovieMaker magazine ranked Austin the best place to "live, work, and make movies," while Austin film folks raised $60,000 at the Spaghetti Western fundraiser toward efforts to convince the 2009 Legislature to increase Texas' film incentives to a level that is actually competitive with other states.

2) **Malick plants one in Smithville.**
The 65,000-pound tree had to be hauled about seven miles through the middle of Smithville, where auteur **Terrence Malick** shot *The Tree of Life* starring **Brad Pitt**, who – along with a then-pregnant **Angelina Jolie** – attracted both gawkers and paparazzi.

3) **Michigan stands in for Austin.**
Drew Barrymore wanted to direct *Whip It!* in Austin. The Austin-set film was written by **Shauna Cross**, who grew up in Austin, and deals with the Roller Derby revival that began in Austin. Instead, it went to Michigan, where they offered up a whopping 42% financial incentive (Texas offers 5%).

4) **HBO finally goes to Temple Grandin.**
It had been in the works for a solid nine years, and finally HBO shot a film starring **Claire Danes** as Temple Grandin – who found great success despite suffering from autism – when an aching Austin film scene most needed it.

5) **Indie films keep it real.**
Heather Graham starred in *Ex-Terminators*, *Will* – now renamed *Bandslam* – was a coming-of-age "dramedy" featuring **Vanessa Hudgens**, and *Conflict of Interest*, a political thriller written by Austin's **Bonnie Orr**, featured **Michael Madsen** and **Lee Majors**.

film news

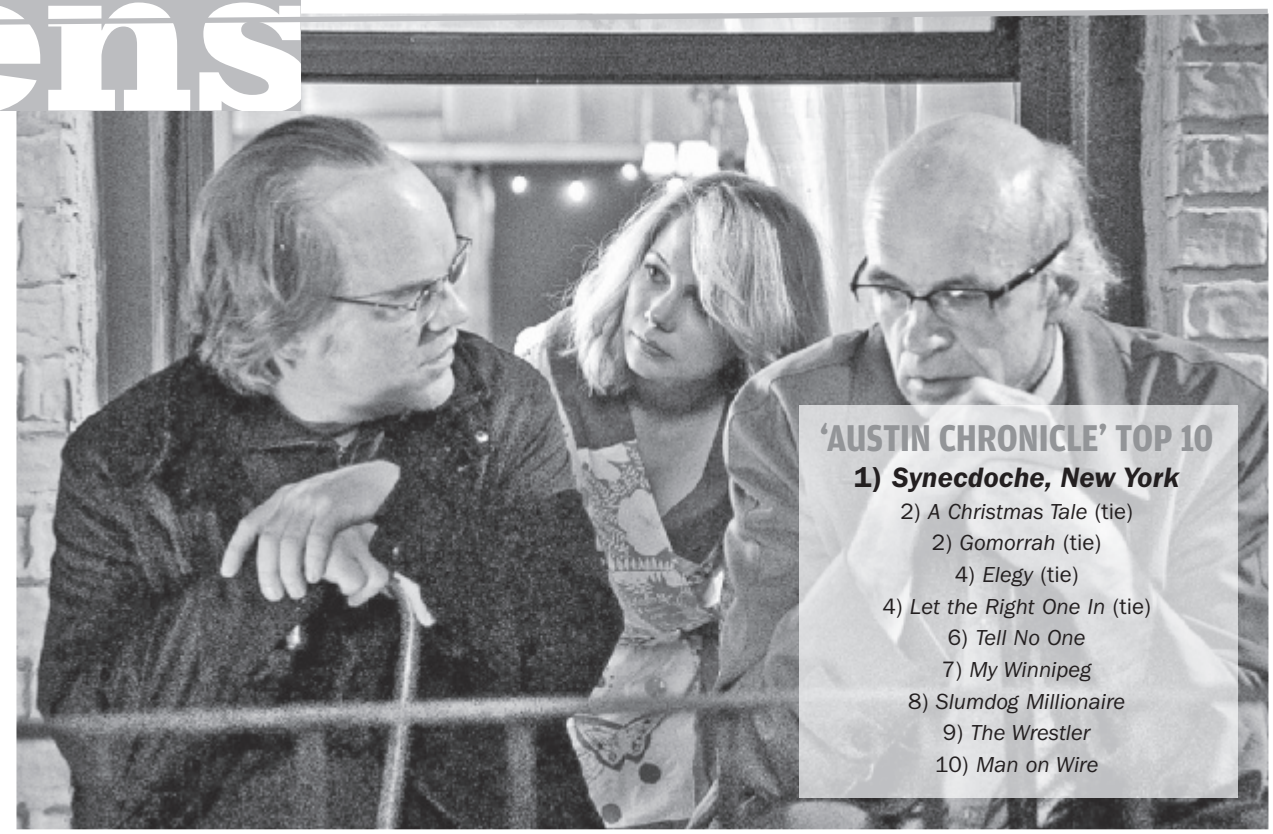
6) **Linklater goes abroad; Rodriguez keeps it short.**
Richard Linklater shot *Me and Orson Welles* on the Isle of Man. Meanwhile back in Austin, **Robert Rodriguez**'s kid film *Shorts* brought to town **Jon Cryer**, **James Spader**, and **William H. Macy**.

7) **Dentler leaves SXSW nest; Pierson roosts.**
Matt Dentler left the helm of the South by Southwest Film Festival. Stepping in was **Janet Pierson**, a four-year Austin resident and recent vice president of the Austin Film Society.

8) **Raval is Austin's red-hot star of 2008.**
PJ Raval saw his camerawork honored as Hurricane Katrina doc *Trouble the Water* was named best documentary at the Sundance Film Festival. But he also directed (along with **Jay Hodges**) *Trinidad*, a doc about the sex-change capital of the world.

9) **Doing the film studio hokeypokey.**
Austin Studios' long-awaited renovations took place this year. Meanwhile **Spiderwood Studios** is quietly taking shape, and **Ranch Studios** remains busy. But the ambitious **Villa Muse** project said no to Austin after city leaders nixed releasing it from Austin's extraterritorial jurisdiction.

10) **Platinum Dunes remakes it in Austin.**
Friday the 13th opened an eight-week shoot here in April, from the same **Platinum Dunes** folks who brought you two Central Texas-shot *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* remakes and *The Hitcher* reimagining.



'AUSTIN CHRONICLE' TOP 10

1) *Synecdoche, New York*
2) *A Christmas Tale* (tie)
2) *Gomorrah* (tie)
4) *Elegy* (tie)
4) *Let the Right One In* (tie)
6) *Tell No One*
7) *My Winnipeg*
8) *Slumdog Millionaire*
9) *The Wrestler*
10) *Man on Wire*

THE YEAR IN REWIND

The 'Chronicle' looks back at 2008 at the movies

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

They're lists. They're fun. They're obligatory. They're enlightening and sometimes baffling moments of truth – both for us and for you. A time for you to get to know our reviewers better. And for us to know ourselves better. A time of reckoning. And a time of good cheer.

Good cheer because spread across these four *Chronicle* reviewers' lists (which are combined above into an overall *Chronicle* Top 10 film list and then presented individually on the following pages) are a wealth of good suggestions of movies to see. As reviewers, we rarely agree, although on our No. 1 selections, clearly a couple of us do. Some are titles of films that haven't opened yet in Austin, so automatically, that gives us some bright spots to look forward to in 2009 (presuming that's when these films finally make their presence known in Austin).

One curious outcome is the unanimity of placement of *The Dark Knight* in the Overrated Films category by three of our four reviewers (all of whom are presently members of the Austin Film Critics Association). This is in diametrical opposition to the results announced a couple of weeks ago by the AFCA, which named the superhero movie as the group's choice for best film of the year. Make of that what you will. If nothing else, this should demonstrate the vast array of voices in the organization as well as highlight the *Chronicle*'s tradition of singularity, something which continues to bind us with our readers.

This is why the discussion won't stop in these pages. We're taking it to the Web so that everyone has a chance to participate. I know our writers felt constrained by the 25-word maximums they were given to annotate their top choices and other categories and are bubbling over with pent-up commentary. *Chronicle* readers, too, have never been shy with feedback. Once you look over these lists, surely they will stimulate more reactions and thoughts of your own. Or maybe your own list for others to peruse? Bring on the discussion. After you turn the page and look over our lists, go to **austinchronicle.com/pip** for more. And even if you have no time or inclination to chime in, go out and watch movies. It's our favorite holiday tradition. ■

Top 5 Gaming Trends

BY JAMES RENOVITCH



1) **Falling for Physics**
It was nice to see physics engines (the programming in many games that produces realistic interactions between objects) used for something other than creating an authentic-looking corpse falling down stairs. 2008's best and most fantastical games (*LittleBigPlanet*, *World of Goo*) were given a rooting in Newtonian and gravitational physics, which lent them a sense of realism and enhanced gameplay.

2) **Wii-Crap**
The continued popularity of the nongamer-friendly Wii spawned a hoard of mediocre and half-baked titles in an effort to capitalize on the newfound Wiimote-wielding demographic. Buyer beware.

3) **Game Over**
Despite the gaming industry's continued good sales overall, local and national game publishers and developers couldn't help but jump on America's layoff bandwagon.

4) **Earth to Garriott**
Local gaming legend Richard Garriott was vacationing in space while his latest creation for NCsoft, *Tabula Rasa*, went belly up. Unsurprisingly, he left the company soon after returning to his home planet.

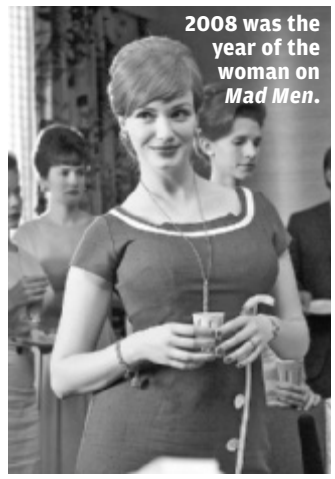
5) **Five Within a Five**
Who am I kidding? Here are my five favorite games of the year: *LittleBigPlanet*, *Fallout 3*, *Left 4 Dead*, *Braid*, *Grand Theft Auto IV*.

It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

The writers' strike put a dent in the traditional, TV-watching calendar, but not to fret. There was still plenty of good stuff to watch if you knew where to look.

1) *Mad Men* (AMC): This meditation on the American dream set in the 1960s is simply brilliant. This year was particularly engrossing, as it focused on the female characters, while the series as a whole moved closer to the social revolutions that will change the nation – and, inevitably, the characters – forever. This is not a series you watch while doing other things. Frankly, it's hard to imagine anything else deserves your attention when an episode of this artfully rendered series airs.



2008 was the year of the woman on *Mad Men*.

2) *The Wire* (HBO): In its fifth and final season, the cop drama set in Baltimore turned a harsh spotlight on the American press. While its characters were flawed, it nonetheless treated all of them – the corrupt, the strung out, the drunk, the forgotten – as if their stories mattered. As someone wiser once said, "If writers don't tell the truth, who will?" Week after week, season after season, viewers could depend on *The Wire* to tell the truth with clarity and unflinching candor.

3) *The Office* (NBC): There are precious few comedies worth noting this year, but this comedy (based on the Ricky Gervais vehicle from Britain) is brilliant. Buoyed by a fine ensemble cast, Steve Carell makes the doofy, mildly competent middle manager Michael Scott his own while still making him likable.

4) *30 Rock* (NBC): Tina Fey's frazzled Liz Lemon does her best to steer her wonky staff behind the scenes of a sketch-comedy show. This season, the awkward friendship between Lemon and her boss, Jack Donaghy (the sublime Alec Baldwin), found its footing, which should make for the most curious twosome since – is there a comparison?

5) Documentaries on IFC: The Independent Film Channel is a cable network that exceeds expectations. This was a banner year for IFC, bringing some of the most intriguing documentaries to the small screen: *Goth Cruise*, *At the Death House Door*, *This Film Is Not Yet Rated*, among others. The recent launch of *The IFC Media Project* series only broadens its menu of TV worth watching.

6) *Skins* (BBC America): This sobering look at contemporary teens from Britain will make any parent shudder, no matter which side of the Atlantic he or she lives on. What's remarkable is that it manages to capture the youthful angst of its cast members while still finding some wicked humor in the head-slapping situations they find themselves in.

7) *Life on Mars* (ABC): Another British series refashioned for a U.S. audience. Detective Sam Tyler (Jason O'Mara) finds himself transported to the 1970s after being hit by a car. Preposterous? Yes, but somehow this smartly assembled series manages to make the paranormal incident, the cop-show drama, and the trappings of a period piece all work together like a well-oiled machine. O'Mara is the star of the show, but Harvey Keitel steals almost every scene he's in as the flinty Lt. Gene Hunt.

8) *Fringe* (Fox): Still haven't jumped on the *Lost* bandwagon? Lost your love for *Heroes*? Then J.J. Abrams' *Fringe* can fill the void. You won't need a spreadsheet to keep track of what's going on in this paranormal detective series. All episodes point back to a spooky thing called the Pattern and a corporate entity with nefarious intentions. Simple, but not simplistic. Anna Torv as Special Agent Olivia Dunham leads the strong cast, but it's John Noble as mad scientist Dr. Walter Bishop you want to watch.

tv eye

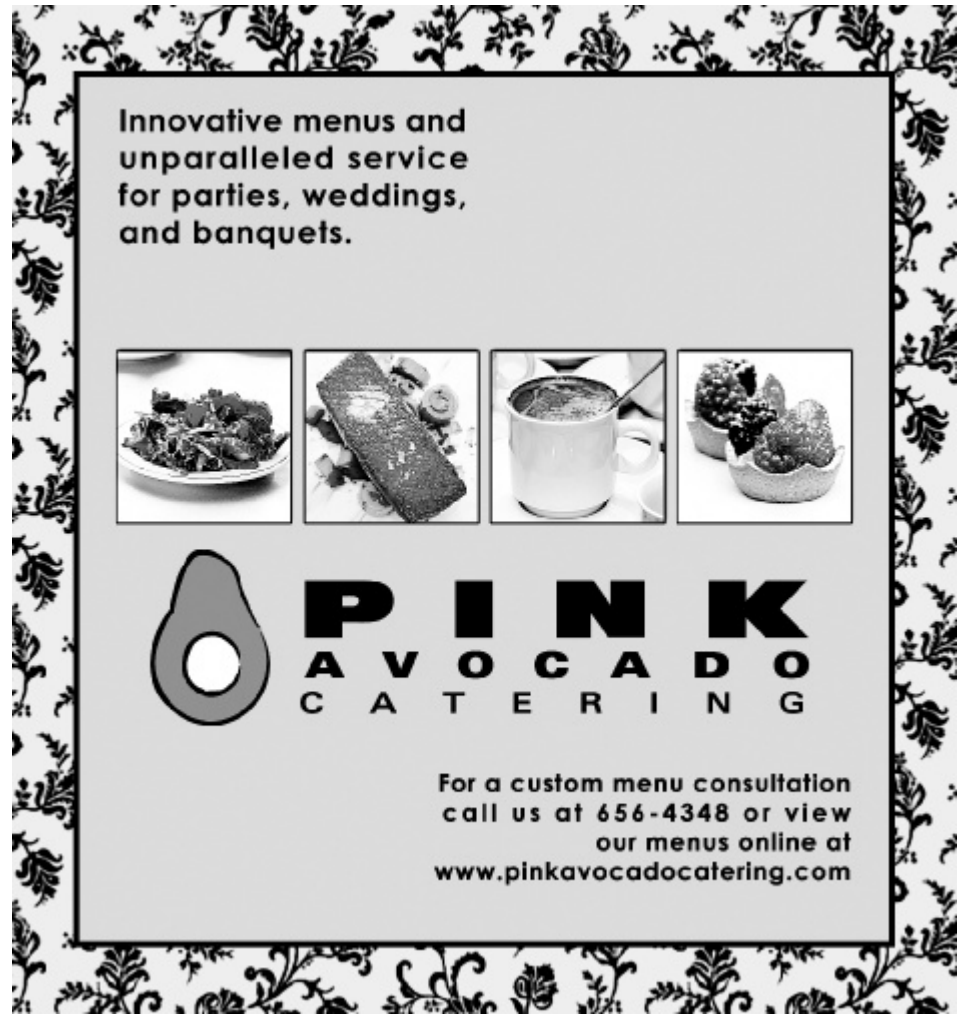
9) *The Daily Show With Jon Stewart & The Colbert Report* (Comedy Central): Consistently funny, topical, irreverent, and sharply observant, these shows are probably watched more than the nightly evening news.

10) *Burn Notice* (USA): Cool with a sense of humor. While Michael Westen (Jeffrey Donovan) tries to find out why he's been burned, he must make ends meet by playing private eye. Those MacGyver skills come in handy when helping dimwits in distress. With assists from former Military Intel Operative Sam Axe (a very droll Bruce Campbell) and a trigger-happy former lover (Gabrielle Anwar), Michael gets the job done with time to spare for a mojito or two.

Other notable series: ***The New Adventures of Old Christine*** (CBS), ***Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*** (Fox), ***Chuck*** (NBC), ***Pushing Daisies*** (ABC), ***Real Time With Bill Maher*** (HBO), ***True Blood*** (HBO), ***In Treatment*** (HBO).

E-mail Belinda Acosta at **tveye@austinchronicle.com**.

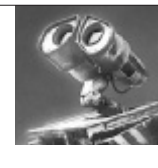





A Christmas Tale


Gomorrah


Elegy

	MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN	KIMBERLEY JONES	JOSH ROSENBLATT	MARC SAVLOV
1	***Synecdoche, New York*** Nothing this year so perfectly melded the elements of direction, script, performance, and visuals to create a totally immersive universe that beseeches my return again and again.	***Synecdoche, New York*** I don't know what it all means, but I know what it means to me. 	***A Christmas Tale*** Arnaud Desplechin's brilliant family epic is as uncontainable and messy as life itself.	***Slumdog Millionaire*** Choose life. Choose love. Fuck terror. Mumbai and Danny Boyle, triumphant together. 
2	***Tell No One*** This psychological thriller from France captivated me thoroughly from beginning to end, with nary a stumble or false alarm. *C'est formidable*. 	***A Christmas Tale*** Turns out Christmas dinner is just as fraught in French. Wickedly funny, emotionally wrecking, and – *zut alors!* – the best gosh-durn ensemble acting of the year.	***Gomorrah*** Adapted from Roberto Saviano's book, this trip through the hell that is the modern-day Neapolitan Mafia splits the difference between *The Wire* and *City of God*.	***Let the Right One In*** Ecstatic and disturbing in equal measure, like a single drop of crimson on the lips of your love. Death is lonely.
3	***Milk*** This triumph of storytelling for Gus Van Sant and performance for Sean Penn is buttressed by a wonderful ensemble and period authenticity. Got *Milk*? Yes, my cup runneth over.	***Elegy*** It takes a Spanish-Canadian woman to finally, exquisitely translate to screen Philip Roth's particular brand of aging American lothario. Brava.	 ***Wendy and Lucy*** The simple story of a woman looking for her lost dog becomes a heartbreaking meditation on life at the losing end of American capitalism.	***The Wrestler*** Mickey Rourke bares more body and soul than Kid Galahad and Gorgeous George combined, while Udo Dirkschneider howls on the soundtrack. "Balls to the Wall," indeed.
4	***The Pool*** Hardly seen and hardly distributed (so far), this India-set narrative by Chris Smith, better known as a documentary maker, is a surprising, enlightening, bare-bones revelation.	***Happy-Go-Lucky*** Within five minutes, you want to drown the giggling girl at its center. Give it five more, and you'll fall for that most uncommon of characters – a head-on-her-shoulders, sunshine kind of optimist.	***The Counterfeiters*** Nazis forcing a master Jewish criminal to counterfeit British pounds in a last-ditch effort to win World War II? What more could you ask for from a movie?	***My Winnipeg*** Black and white and weird all over, Guy Maddin's heartfelt homage to his sleepy, snowbound hometown makes your own dreams seem dull by comparison.
5	***Elegy*** Philip Roth finally gets the film interpretation his work deserves with this feminist/humanist take on life, love, and death.	***Rachel Getting Married*** Demme, an actors' director par excellence, stripped down and gave us a low-down dirty but ever-loving lens on a broken family's stutter-steps toward reconciliation.	***I've Loved You So Long*** Kristin Scott Thomas gives one of the year's best performances as a former convict condemned to the prison of her own memory.	***Gomorrah*** Simply the most devastating Italian post-neorealist crime story ever made. See Naples, and die.
6	***My Winnipeg*** So believable it could be a documentary, so surreal it must be imaginary, so authentic it can only be the singular insight of visionary filmmaker Guy Maddin.	***Let the Right One In*** Swedish tykes in something like love – with decapitation, to boot. A slow burn set to icy cool and a bonkers-kinda beautiful.	***Synecdoche, New York*** Charlie Kaufman's directorial debut is fascinating, maddening, confusing, depressing, and inspiring all at the same time.	***Man on Wire*** Philippe Petit wire-walks between the twin towers of the World Trade Center in this mesmerizing, exhilarating, and very much haunted documentary.
7	***Gomorrah*** There are so many strands in this stunning-looking Italian crime thriller that it initially threatens to verge into chaos but instead coalesces into a magnificent symphony.	***Tell No One*** For all its twistiness, this breakneck French adaptation of an American thriller novel was the most uncomplicatedly satisfying genre film of the year.	***Man on Wire*** James Marsh's highly original documentary about Philippe Petit, the man who walked between the twin towers in 1974, is as full of bluster as its subject.	***Waltz With Bashir*** An animated recounting of the Israeli-Lebanese war of 1982, and more specifically of the Sabra and Shatila massacre, this is not a love song.
8	***Gran Torino*** Clint Eastwood has made a perfect career-capper, reformulating the various essences of his work for a contemporary world and directing himself without a hint of self-indulgence.	***Son of Rambow*** A sweet, plucky tale about two boys finding a family with a camera and with each other. Still haven't wiped the stupid grin off my face.	***Che*** A self-important yet fascinating historical epic that's both bloated and microscopic, as interested in the day-to-day mechanics of violent revolution as its ultimate meaning.	***Blindness*** At times as disturbing to watch as anything outside of Gaspar Noé's *Irréversible* but a powerful and ultimately hopeful metaphor for human shortsightedness, nonetheless.
9	***U2 3D*** For once, 3-D is used not for wowwy effects and startling nature photography but in a way that complements and enhances the performance.	***In Search of a Midnight Kiss*** A new generation's *Say Anything*, sans the happy ending. Unless you count the last-reel Scorpions sing-along. And I kinda do.	***The Wrestler*** Mickey Rourke saves himself from obscurity with his layered portrayal of a professional wrestler doomed to it. 	***Son of Rambow*** Hammer & Tongs: Skills on toast. Sweet beyond measure, wise beyond words. 
10	***Slumdog Millionaire*** Danny Boyle again proves his mastery of the art of storytelling, thrusting us into the vibrancy and squalor of Mumbai slum kids as skillfully as he did with junkies and zombies.	***WALL-E*** If they'd just skipped the silly parts with the Pixar-ated humans, it would have been top to bottom sublime. 	***Trouble the Water*** Bush and Brownie should have to watch this first-person documentary filmed from inside Hurricane Katrina twice a day, everyday, for the rest of their lives.	***Funny Games*** The medium is malevolent: Germany's Michael Haneke remakes his own metamanifesto on media mayhem for us cyber-saturated Yanks. We die.

	MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN	KIMBERLEY JONES	JOSH ROSENBLATT	MARC SAVLOV
NEAR MISSES	*Rachel Getting Married*, *Revolutionary Road*, *Frozen River*, *The Duchess of Langeais*, *Towelhead*	*Shotgun Stories*, *The Class*, *In Bruges*, *Wild Combination: A Portrait of Arthur Russell*, *Reprise*	*Tell No One*, *In Search of a Midnight Kiss*, *Slumdog Millionaire*, *Hancock*	*Synecdoche, New York*; *A Christmas Tale*; *The Signal*; *JCVD*; *Happy-Go-Lucky*
MOST OVERRATED	*The Dark Knight*, *The Wrestler*, *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*	*The Dark Knight*, *Gran Torino*, *Slumdog Millionaire*	*Happy-Go-Lucky*, *Gran Torino*, *Iron Man*	*Che*, *Kung Fu Panda*, *The Dark Knight*
MOST UNDERRATED	*The Pool*, *U2 3D*, *Cadillac Records*	*Hancock*, *Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day*, *Ghost Town*	*Hancock*, *The Counterfeiters*, *I've Loved You So Long*	*Encounters at the End of the World*, *Paranoid Park*, *The Bank Job*
ACTING KUDOS (MALE)	Sean Penn (*Milk*), Dennis Hopper (*Elegy*), Clint Eastwood (*Gran Torino*)	Mathieu Amalric (*A Christmas Tale*, *Quantum of Solace*), Michael Shannon (*Revolutionary Road*, *Shotgun Stories*), Heath Ledger (*The Dark Knight*)	Heath Ledger (*The Dark Knight*), Mathieu Amalric (*A Christmas Tale*), Robert Downey Jr. (*Tropic Thunder*)	Jean-Claude Van Damme (*JCVD*), Eugene Hütz (*Filth and Wisdom*), Heath Ledger (*The Dark Knight*)
ACTING KUDOS (FEMALE)	Anne Hathaway (*Rachel Getting Married*), Rosemarie DeWitt (*Rachel Getting Married*), Kristin Scott Thomas (*I've Loved You So Long*)	Sally Hawkins (*Happy-Go-Lucky*), Penélope Cruz (*Elegy*, *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*), Catinca Untaru (*The Fall*)	Kristin Scott Thomas (*I've Loved You So Long*), Michelle Williams (*Wendy and Lucy*), Penélope Cruz (*Elegy*)	Lina Leandersson (*Let the Right One In*), Julianne Moore (*Blindness*), Asia Argento (*The Last Mistress*)
BEST DIRECTOR	Gus Van Sant (*Milk*, *Paranoid Park*), Danny Boyle (*Slumdog Millionaire*), Guy Maddin (*My Winnipeg*)	Arnaud Desplechin (*A Christmas Tale*), Isabel Coixet (*Elegy*), Charlie Kaufman (*Synecdoche, New York*)	Arnaud Desplechin (*A Christmas Tale*), Matteo Garrone (*Gomorrah*), Kelly Reichardt (*Wendy and Lucy*)	Tomas Alfredson (*Let the Right One In*), Danny Boyle with Loveleen Tandan (*Slumdog Millionaire*), Fernando Meirelles (*Blindness*)
BEST SCREENPLAY (ORIGINAL)	*Synecdoche, New York* (Charlie Kaufman), *Milk* (Dustin Lance Black), *Wendy and Lucy* (Kelly Reichardt and Jonathan Raymond)	*Synecdoche, New York* (Charlie Kaufman), *Rachel Getting Married* (Jenny Lumet), *In Bruges* (Martin McDonagh)	*Synecdoche, New York* (Charlie Kaufman), *A Christmas Tale* (Arnaud Desplechin and Emmanuel Bourdieu)	*Synecdoche, New York* (Charlie Kaufman), *The Fall* (Dan Gilroy, Nico Soultanakis, and Tarsem Singh), *A Christmas Tale* (Arnaud Desplechin and Emmanuel Bourdieu)
BEST SCREENPLAY (ADAPTED)	*Let the Right One In* (John Ajvide Lindqvist), *Elegy* (Nicholas Meyer), *The Pool* (Chris Smith)	*Revolutionary Road* (Justin Haythe), *Elegy* (Nicholas Meyer), *Snow Angels* (David Gordon Green)	*Elegy* (Nicholas Meyer), *Gomorrah* (Maurizio Braucci, Ugo Chiti, Gianni Di Gregorio, Matteo Garrone, Massimo Gaudioso, and Roberto Saviano)	*The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* (Eric Roth), *Revolutionary Road* (Justin Haythe), *Blindness* (Don McKellar)
WORST FILM	*Repo! The Genetic Opera*. Blood saga? Goth opera? Over-the-top theatrics with the bar set at zero? Sarah Brightman and Paris Hilton? Quick: Order me up some of the film's numbing drug, Zydrate.	*Speed Racer*. If this is the future of film, then you'll find me burrowed in a bunker somewhere knee-deep in Hawks, Wilder, Hitchcock, and Welles.	*The Reader*. Hollywood's endless fascination with the Holocaust as easily digestible, artfully photographed life-lesson reaches a new low with this adaptation of the Oprah's Book Club bestseller.	*The Happening*. M. Night Shyamalan's numb comeback was neither as exciting as *The Wind in the Willows* nor as terrifying as *Leaves of Grass*. Seriously, dude. WTF?
WILD CARD	Not One but Two Memorable Times at Bat in 2008: Streep, Van Sant, Brolin, Franco, Winslet, Eastwood, Banks, Cruz, Downey, Kingsley … and Ledger, sadly, only one.	Dueling Grunters: As two avengers in overpraised films, Clint Eastwood and Christian Bale seemed to take a guttural growl from McGruff the Crime Dog. Grrr.	Most Predictable Disappointment: *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*. George Lucas continues his quest to turn his past work, and all my childhood heroes, into garbage.	Best Nine Hours in Alamo Ritz History: The *Spaced* Brit-com marathon, featuring a lively Edgar Wright, a trashed Simon Pegg, and … Jaffa Cakes!

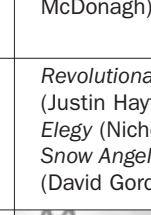















Let the Right One In


Tell No One


My Winnipeg

HEAR TEXAS HERE!

NOW ON OUR LISTENING STATIONS: GREAT NEW MUSIC FROM THE LONE STAR STATE

Apex



JASON BOLAND
Comal County Blue
Produced by Grammy Award winner Lloyd Maines, with guest appearances from Robert Earl Keen, this album appeals to fans of Texas music, country, or Americana. He is of the new breed of traditionalist country singer-songwriters.
$13.99 CD

Calla Lily



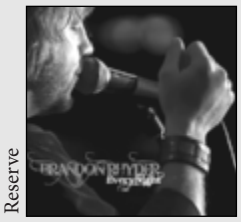
BROTHERS & SISTERS
Fortunately
"This is Summer of Love-evoking rock and country. The whole thing blends together in a cosmic haze, with each part spiraling around the other in perfect, blissed-out balance." - Lindsay Eanet, *Soundcheck Magazine*
$10.99 CD

Fun All Wrong



ROGER CREAGER
Here It Is
Creager does not aim for songs with hooks but instead writes about things that inspire him from real life. With a career built on a mountain of experience, enthusiasm, hard work & talent, it's no surprise he's selling out dancehalls and playing for crowds upwards of 10,000.
$13.99 CD

Reserve



BRANDON RHYDER
Every Night
"It is rare that you meet someone who has such lyrical talents who didn't begin writing at an early age, and it is even rarer to hear someone deliver those songs with such vocal power and passion." - Radney Foster
$10.99 CD

Penny Jo Pullus



PENNY JO PULLUS
My Barn Having Burned, I Can Now See the Moon
Similar to Roseanne Cash and Lucinda Williams, Penny Jo has dug deeper to find the right songs and voice of a mature songwriter, to shake off the "country chick singer" stamp. What Penny Jo is now up to is decidedly different.
$12.99 CD

Big Label



AARON WATSON
Angels & Outlaws
Aaron returns with his strongest offering yet, *Angels & Outlaws*. Judging by the success of his own indie record label and the fans flocking to his shows each night, he seems to be enjoying his view from way ahead of the curve.
$12.99 CD

Wagonmaker



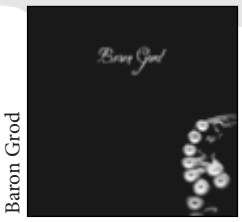
SAN SABA COUNTY
...Though Cheating Was Never an Option
"Austin's finally given birth to the who's next of its songwriter roots trail paved by kitchen-sink bands such as Shearwater [and] Okkervil River... surprising and tuneful as anything you'll hear locally or otherwise this year." - Jim Caligiuri, *Austin Chronicle*
$12.99 CD

Just Desserts



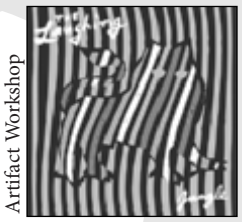
JUST DESSERTS
Love or Die
Sophisticated and fun world fusion on accordion and cello. Tango-soaked tunes from Argentina, USA, Catalunya, Serbia, Venezuela, Klezmer, more. Features Cyril Neville, Stanley Smith, Jonathan Doyle, Michael Shay, Jason McKenzie.
$10.99 CD

Baron Grod



BARON GROD
Baron Grod
Predominantly instrumental, this sludgy, post-rock, shoegazing Austin quartet provide soaring melodies comparable to Russian Circles and jarring distorted riffs/vocals reminiscent of Isis.
$6.99 CD

Artifact Workshop



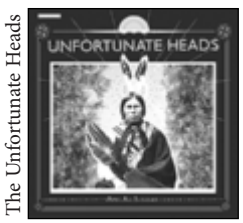
THE LAUGHING
Jungle
Expanding on the art rock of the 70's and adding the manipulated melody of Animal Collective, the Laughing creates what the *Onion* calls "new-wave hooks with hints of art-school neurosis."
$6.99 CD

Amanda Mora



AMANDA MORA
The Ribbon
Amanda Mora delivers a captivating blend of indie pop and early American swing with a backbone of folk roots. Her debut release, *The Ribbon*, will take you on a poetic and ever amusing journey as only great storytelling and music can.
$11.99 CD

The Unfortunate Heads



THE UNFORTUNATE HEADS
April All Summer
Melding acoustic folk, organ-based psychedelia and warped guitars around lyrical themes of wandering amid bleak landscapes, the band's third LP, like the Algonquin that graces its cover, slices a distinctive path.
$8.99 CD

Sounds Under Radio



SOUNDS UNDER RADIO
Cinematica
"...a big-time rock 'n' roll band masquerading as some unsigned indie-emo whatsits!" - *Entertainment Weekly*. This is Austin, TX style Brit Rock... haunting melodies and intimate moments atop a stadium sized, guitar driven rock n roll landscape.
$8.99 CD

Darling Echo



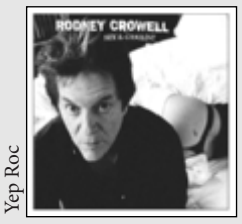
BRIAN KREMER
Climbing the Vine
Kremer layers his songs with rootsy guitar and his lyric baritone. With influences stemming from the Jayhawks and Richard Thompson, *Climbing the Vine* benefits from appearances by Cindy Cashdollar on steel guitar and the Tosca String Quartet.
$9.99 CD

Record Party



THE ACTION IS
Space Fire
The Action Is turn in their 4th full length. Not making the mistake of following the latest and most obvious trends, TAI stick to what they know best: well crafted and intelligent rock 'n' roll reminiscent of Mudhoney and the Hellacopters.
$11.99 CD

Yep Roc



RODNEY CROWELL
Sex & Gasoline
Sex & Gasoline was produced by the legendary Joe Henry and contains what Crowell says are, "some of the best performances I've given to date."
$13.99 CD

Yep Roc



RECKLESS KELLY
Bulletproof
Reckless Kelly is back on the rock 'n' roll stage with their most ambitious and venomous album to date. Rollicking guitars and a relentlessly aggressive rhythm section pound out political statements alongside epic road anthems and ragged love songs.
$13.99 CD

Misra



CENTRO-MATIC/SOUTH SAN GABRIEL
Dual Hawks
Catchy hooks, wiry guitars, harmonies and handclaps, splendid string and horn arrangements, and songs so well written and produced they will make indie-rockers of lesser mettle go home and cry.
$13.99 CD

Eleanor Whitmore



ELEANOR WHITMORE
Airplanes
Eleanor Whitmore's *Airplanes* is a perfect example of what happens when attention to pinpoint detail in production and exquisite instrumentation accompanies a well conceived collection of songs; a highly impressive debut album.
$12.99 CD

Back Porch/Manhattan



ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
Live Animal
Known for his enigmatic and engaging live shows, Texas rocker Alejandro Escovedo's live EP, *Live Animal*, features a selection of stellar tracks from his latest release *Real Animal*. The EP is an indie store exclusive!
$6.99 CD

SALE ENDS 2-11-2009

WATERLOO

Compact Discs
Records • Video

10-11 Mon- Sat 11-11 Sun
600-A North Lamar Austin, TX 78703
www.waterloorecords.com
(512)474.2500

WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

BUY, SELL & TRADE – DVDs, CDs & LPs

WATERLOO GLADLY ACCEPTS NATIONAL CHAIN GIFT CARDS

SHOP LOCALLY – 3 TIMES MORE MONEY STAYS IN AUSTIN!

OFF THE RECORD
MUSIC NEWS by Austin Powell

The Countdown Continues

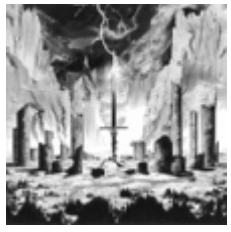
TOP 10 NATIONAL

1) **Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds**, *Dig!!! Lazarus Dig!!!* (Anti-)
2) **The Walkmen**, *You & Me* (Gigantic)
3) **Deerhunter**, *Microcastle/Weird Era Cont.* (Kranky)
4) **TV on the Radio**, *Dear Science* (Interscope)
5) **Metallica**, *Death Magnetic* (Warner Bros.)
6) **Spiritualized**, *Songs in A&E* (Fontana Int'l)
7) **Benoit Pioulard**, *Temper* (Kranky)
8) ***Retribution Gospel Choir*** (Caldo Verde)
9) **Hauschka**, *Ferndorf* (Fatcat)
10) **Erykah Badu**, *New Amerykah Part One: 4th World War* (Motown)

TOP 10 AUSTIN

1) **The Sword**, *Gods of the Earth* (Kemado)
2) **Alejandro Escovedo**, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/EMI)
3) **Harlem**, *Free Drugs*
4) **White Denim**, *Exposion* (Transmission Entertainment)
5) **Shearwater**, *Rook* (Matador)
6) **Balmorhea**, *Rivers Arms* (Western Vinyl)
7) **Grupo Fantasma**, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
8) **Lions of Tsavo**, *[Firelung]* (Ovrcast)
9) **Leatherbag**, *Love & Harm* (Super Pop)
10) **The Black Angels**, *Directions to See a Ghost* (Light in the Attic)







10 LOCALS FROM OFF THE BEATEN PATH

1) **Sunset**, *The Glowing City* (Autobus)
2) **Hacienda**, *Loud Is the Night* (Alive Natural Sound)
3) **Mammoth Grinder**, *Rage and Ruin* (Depleted Resource)
4) **The Lovely Sparrows**, *Bury the Cynics* (Abandoned Love)
5) ***Horse + Donkey***
6) **Brothers and Sisters**, *Fortunately* (Calla Lily)
7) **When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth**, *Not Noiice* (Chalk Circle)
8) **Pillow Queens**, *Kookoolegit* (Monofonus)
9) **Weird Weeds**, *I Miss This* (Autobus)
10) **Silent Land Time Machine**, *&hope still* (Indian Queen/Time-Lag)

NINE LOCALS TO WATCH IN 2009

The Wooden Birds	**The Bubbles**	**The Great Nostalgic**
Elvis	**Woven Bones**	**A Giant Dog**
The Eastern Sea	**Sea Legs**	**The Sour Notes**

By the Numbers

2008 proved to be another banner year for **C3 Presents**, despite pulling the plug on the **Vineland** and **Big State** music festivals. The local enterprise ranked No. 9 among promoters on ***Billboard***'s annual year-end list, grossing more than $50 million, only a fifth of which came from the 2008 **Austin City Limits Music Festival**. C3 Presents produced 839 shows (177 of them sellouts), nearly doubling its total from last year, thanks in part to the company's work with **Emo's** and expansions nationwide, for a total attendance of 1,213,110.

Taking Sides

The ***Chronicle*** **Music Poll** (p.81) has followed the industry's paradigm shift into the Digital Age. Due to social networking sites such as **MySpace**, not to mention the local Land Development Code, Section 13-2-864 (see "Violators Will Be Punished," Sept. 12, 1997), the concert poster as advertisement has largely gone the way of the PDF, and the poll committee, with profound regret, has removed the category from this year's ballot. Other categories to get the pink slip include **Novelty Band**, **Horn Player/Section**, **Strings Player/Section**, and **Instrument Equipment Store**, though all of them are still in the running for the annual "**Best of Austin**" issue. Cast your ballot before Jan. 31. The remaining categories, with OTR's picks:



SANDY CARSON

BAND OF THE YEAR: **White Denim**
MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR: **Alejandro Escovedo**
SONG OF THE YEAR: "Power to Change," the **Black & White Years**
ALBUM OF THE YEAR: *Gods of the Earth*, the **Sword**
NEW BAND: **Mammoth Grinder**
ROCK: The **Black Angels**
PUNK: **Krum Bums**
METAL: The Sword
INDUSTRIAL/GOTH: **Cry Blood Apache**
DJ: **Table Manners Crew**
INDIE: White Denim
JAZZ: **Tina Marsh**
BLUES: **Gary Clark Jr**.
HIP-HOP: **Zeale & Phranchyze**
INSTRUMENTAL: **Balmorhea**
EXPERIMENTAL: **Weird Weeds**
COUNTRY: **Hayes Carll**
BLUEGRASS: The **Lost Pines**
ROOTS-ROCK: **James McMurtry**
FOLK: **Possessed by Paul James**
LATIN TRADITIONAL: **Grupo Fantasma**
LATIN CONTEMPORARY: **Ocote Soul Sounds**
WORLD: **Rattletree Marimba**
COVER BAND: **Acid Tomb**
KID BAND: **Fireants**
NONE OF THE ABOVE: **Silent Land Time Machine**
FEMALE VOCALS: **Dana Falconberry**
MALE VOCALS: **James Petralli**, White Denim
ELECTRIC GUITAR: **Adrian Quesada**, Grupo Fantasma
ACOUSTIC GUITAR: **Will Courtney**, **Brothers and Sisters**
BASS: **Steve Terebecki**, White Denim
DRUMS: **Hector Muñoz**
KEYBOARDS: **Marcia Ball**
MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT: **Thor Harris**, **Shearwater** (hammer dulcimer)
SONGWRITER: **Randy Reynolds**, aka **Leatherbag**
PRODUCER: **Erik Wofford**
NEW CLUB: **Long Center for the Performing Arts**
LIVE MUSIC VENUE: **Mohawk**
ACOUSTIC VENUE: **Cactus Cafe**
ALL-AGES VENUE: **Emo's**
RECORD STORE: **End of an Ear**
RADIO STATION: **KOOP 91.7FM**
RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM: ***Chillville***, **KROX**
RADIO PERSONALITY: **Andy Langer**, **KGSR**
LOCAL LABEL: **Western Vinyl**
HALL OF FAME: The **Dicks**

The New Pollution

There's no taking the trailer out of **Joey Thompson**. The **Archibalds**' singer and multi-instrumentalist has an uncanny knack for capturing seedy characters, spinning voyeuristic narratives of ghetto blasters and junk culture that recall the slacker folk of *Mellow Gold*-era **Beck**. "I grew up in a tiny town of about 600 people," attests Thompson, an Alabama native. "I know all of these characters and have seen them firsthand. I approach them from that **Randy Newman**, third-person perspective, like here's these characters, and for whatever reason, you should know about them." Having backed emerging songwriters such as **Hope Irish** from the band's Superpop Records stable since forming in 2006, the Archibalds have positioned themselves as the **Gourds**' rightful next of kin on sophomore outing *Easy Living*, an eccentric and entertaining collection of off-kilter Americana, accentuated by the harmonies of producer/bassist **Seth Gibbs**. "I've always strived for us to be the Southern rock **Beatles**," Thompson clarifies, "as if the Beatles had grown up white trash in Alabama." The Archibalds unwind at the **Hole in the Wall** on Saturday with Leatherbag and **Quiet Life**.



SANDY CARSON

The Archibalds

Prove It All Night

Preaching 2008 and beyond

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

Alejandro Escovedo striding onstage for the first encore at Houston's Toyota Center arena the night of April 14 still seems surreal. Bruce Springsteen talked up but didn't immediately name a Lone Star singer-songwriter who could have been anyone from Billy Joe Shaver to Britt Daniel. The fix was in since Escovedo had recently signed on with the Boss' longtime management team, but that information wasn't exactly a banner across the back line of E Street amps. "Always a Friend," kicking open the Austinite's career LP *Real Animal*, found the headliner happily out of his element and the special guest levitating. Joe Ely appeared next.

Escovedo's pointy cowboy boots hadn't touched down yet the next night at the Continental Club, where River City's Lou Reed uncaged *Real Animal* every Tuesday night on South Congress for months. From Iggy Pop to hep C, Escovedo looped punk rock back to its irritant and initial role model, the Rolling Stones, concluding with a cover of "Beast of Burden." In one set, siphoned from one recording, rock & roll's crusty, dusty back pages raged and purred electric with the immediacy of live expression. How many such performances occur nightly – *hourly* – here in Austin?

In 1999, when Springsteen reunited his Band and stopped over at the Frank Erwin Center, "Prove It All Night" exhorted itself into "Two Hearts," the singer shouting into a microphone inches from the yowl of guitarist Little "Silvio" Van Zandt. When the former song went unplayed this spring in the Bayou City, it was sought out by one casual fanatic via 1978's *Darkness on the Edge of Town*, then discovered on a bootleg from that same year at Winterland in San Francisco, its plea and promise expanded biblically from four minutes to 12 on Roy Bittan's long, wintery piano intro priming Old Testament guitars.

"When I was a kid, I used to think … as long as I went to bed and said my prayers, everything would be all right," warms Springsteen as intro, his preacher no different than Nick Cave, Wovenhand's David Eugene Edwards, or fire and brimstone James McMurtry. "But you find out that you gotta prove it all night, every night."

Critics Poll

Raoul Hernandez

TOP 10 NATIONAL



1) Lucinda Williams, *Little Honey* (Lost Highway)
2) Metallica, *Death Magnetic* (Warner Bros.)
3) Bun B, *II Trill* (Rap-a-Lot)
4) *Graveyard* (Tee Pee)
5) Wovenhand, *Ten Stones* (Sounds Familyre)
6) Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds, *Dig!!! Lazarus Dig!!!* (Anti-)
7) Steve Cropper & Felix Cavaliere, *Nudge It Up a Notch* (Stax)
8) Deerhunter, *Microcastle/Weird Era Cont.* (Kranky/4AD)
9) The Black Keys, *Attack & Release* (Nonesuch)
10) MGMT, *Oracular Spectacular* (Columbia)

TOP 10 LOCAL



1) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch)
2) James McMurtry, *Just Us Kids* (Lightning Rod)
3) Hayes Carll, *Trouble in Mind* (Lost Highway)
4) The Sword, *Gods of the Earth* (Kemado)
5) Grupo Fantasma, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
6) The Ape-Shits, *La Pollution Culturelle* (Super Secret)
7) When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth, *Not Noiice* (Chalk Circle)
8) Eliza Gilkyson, *Beautiful World* (Red House)
9) Lions of Tsavo, *[Firelung]* (Ovrcast)
10) *Dan Dyer* (Fat Caddy)

10 LOCAL ALTERNATES



1) San Saba County, *… Though Cheating Was Never an Option* (Wagonmaker)
2) The Lovely Sparrows, *Bury the Cynics* (Abandoned Love)
3) Ariel Abshire, *Exclamation Love* (Darla)
4) Horse + Donkey, *Dreams*
5) *Warren Hood* (Good Dinner)
6) Kacy Crowley, *Cave* (Stable)
7) Joe Ely & Joel Guzman, *Live Cactus!* (Rack 'Em)
8) Danny Schmidt, *Little Grey Sheep* (Waterbug)
9) South Austin Jug Band, *Strange Invitation*
10) Broken Teeth, *Electric* (Tex-Tone)

Audra Schroeder

TOP 10 NATIONAL



1) Beach House, *Devotion* (Carpark)
2) Tuxedomoon, *Vapour Trails* (Crammed Discs)
3) Portishead, *Third* (Mercury/Island)
4) Torche, *Meanderthal* (Hydra Head)
5) Frida Hyvönen, *Silence Is Wild* (Secretly Canadian)
6) Thee Oh Sees, *The Master's Bedroom Is Worth Spending a Night In* (Tomlab/Castle Face)
7) Indian Jewelry, *Free Gold* (We Are Free)
8) Deerhunter, *Microcastle/Weird Era Cont.* (Kranky/4AD)
9) Fucked Up, *The Chemistry of Common Life* (Matador)
10) *Women* (Jagjaguwar)

TOP 10 TEXAS



1) *Horse + Donkey*
2) Harlem, *Free Drugs* (Female Fantasy)
3) Hacienda, *Loud Is the Night* (Alive Natural Sound)
4) Weird Weeds, *I Miss This* (Autobus)
5) Shearwater, *Rook* (Matador)
6) The Black Angels, *Directions to See a Ghost* (Light in the Attic)
7) Golden Boys, *Goodbye Country* (Monofonus Press)
8) White Denim, *Exposion* (Transmission Entertainment)
9) Grupo Fantasma, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
10) Dana Falconberry, *Oh Skies of Grey* (00:02:59)

LOCAL CHORUS LINE



1) Charles Potts Magic Windmill Band, *The Golden Calves* (Business Deal)
2) The Sour Notes, *The Meat of the Fruit*
3) Mammoth Grinder, *Rage and Ruin* (Depleted Resource)
4) The Ape-Shits, *La Pollution Culturelle* (Super Secret)
5) Silver Pines, *Forces*
6) Pillow Queens, *Kookoolegit* (Monofonus Press)
7) When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth, *Not Noiice* (Chalk Circle)
8) Gretchen Phillips, *I Was Just Comforting Her* (Seasick Sailor)
9) My Education, *Bad Vibrations* (Strange Attractors Audio House)
10) Murdocks, *Roar! Roar! Roar!* (Surprise Truck)

BEST LOCAL SHOW

GREG BEETS Gretchen Phillips/Golden Arm Trio, Cactus Cafe
JIM CALIGIURI Black Joe Lewis & the Honey Bears, Hole in the Wall
THOMAS FAWCETT Grupo Fantasma with Larry Harlow, Antone's
DOUG FREEMAN Alejandro Escovedo/Leatherbag, Cactus Cafe
MELANIE HAUPT Austin Taiko Drummers, Austin Family Music Festival, Pioneer Farms
CHASE HOFFBERGER Bavu Blakes, Mohawk
RAOUL HERNANDEZ Butthole Surfers, Stubb's
DANIEL MEE Trail of Dead, Red 7
MARGARET MOSER Billy Joe Shaver at the Candye Kane benefit, Antone's
AUSTIN POWELL Butthole Surfers, Stubb's
AUDRA SCHROEDER Butthole Surfers, Stubb's
DARCIE STEVENS Fun Fun Fun Fest, Waterloo Park
JAY TRACHTENBERG Steve Jordan, H&H Ballroom

BEST ROADSHOW

BEETS Boys in a Band, Habana Calle 6
CALIGIURI Squeeze, La Zona Rosa
FAWCETT Nas/Talib Kweli, Emo's
FREEMAN Of Montreal, Fiesta Gardens
HAUPT Tom Waits, Jones Hall, Houston
HOFFBERGER Band of Horses, the Parish
HERNANDEZ Monotonix, Mohawk; Nas, Emo's
MEE Chirgilchin, First Unitarian Church
MOSER Steve Jordan, H&H Ballroom
POWELL Kanye West, Frank Erwin Center
SCHROEDER Tom Waits, Palladium Ballroom, Dallas
STEVENS Radiohead, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, the Woodlands
TRACHTENBERG Maceo Parker, Antone's

LOCAL VENUE YOU VISITED THE MOST

BEETS Scoot Inn
CALIGIURI Cactus Cafe
FAWCETT Emo's
FREEMAN Mohawk
HAUPT Central Market North
HOFFBERGER Emo's
HERNANDEZ Emo's
MEE Emo's
MOSER Continental Club
POWELL Emo's
SCHROEDER Mohawk
STEVENS Mohawk
TRACHTENBERG Continental Club

LOCAL ACT YOU SAW THE MOST

BEETS The Ugly Beats
CALIGIURI Black Joe Lewis & the Honey Bears
FAWCETT T-Bird & the Breaks
FREEMAN The Lonesome Heroes
HAUPT The Biscuit Brothers
CHASE HOFFBERGER Zeale
HERNANDEZ White Denim
MEE Ume
MARGARET MOSER 3 Balls of Fire
POWELL White Denim
SCHROEDER Foot Patrol
STEVENS Black Joe Lewis & the Honey Bears
TRACHTENBERG Alejandro Escovedo

CONTINUED ON P.52

The Gourds

IN-STORE PERFORMANCE TUESDAY
JANUARY 6th @ 5PM



Unclassifiable Austin sons The Gourds are back. On *Haymaker!* the band circles back, digs beneath and climbs over their gin soaked music roots with an album of grass-fed cosmic country.

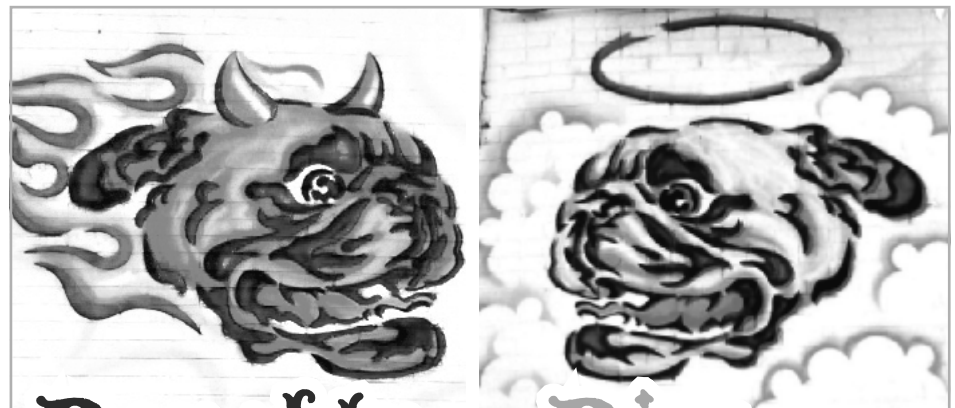
$13.99 CD

SALE ENDS 1-15-2009

WATERLOO
Compact Discs
Records • Video
10-11 Mon- Sat 11-11 Sun
600-A North Lamar Austin, TX 78703
www.waterlooorecords.com
(512)474.2500

WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

Shiner BEERS
YepRoc RECORDS



Naughty or Nice ...

It doesn't matter at

OPEN 'TIL MIDNIGHT

cheapo discs

10th & LAMAR • 512.477.4499

art by FEDERICO

www.cheapotexas.com

ALWAYS FREE

Find a replacement with our

Roommate Listings

MORE *than a list*
THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE *Classifieds*

austinchronicle.com/classifieds

ROZONE
PRODUCTIONS INC.
PRESENTS AN EVENING WITH

AMERICA

HERE & NOW

FEB. 20, 2009
Doors @ 7 pm
Show @ 8 pm

PARAMOUNT THEATRE

Purchase Tickets Online at gettix.net or call (866) 4GET-TIX

National Top 10s













GREG BEETS

1) Los Campesinos!, *Hold on Now, Youngster …* (Arts & Crafts)
2) Randy Newman, *Harps and Angels* (Nonesuch)
3) *High Places* (Thrill Jockey)
4) The Love Me Nots, *Detroit* (Atomic a Go Go)
5) Al Green, *Lay It Down* (Blue Note)
6) The Hold Steady, *Stay Positive* (Vagrant)
7) Deerhunter, *Microcastle/Weird Era Cont.* (Kranky/4AD)
8) Los Campesinos!, *We Are Beautiful, We Are Doomed* (Arts & Crafts)
9) Thee Oh Sees, *The Master's Bedroom Is Worth Spending a Night In* (Tomlab/Castle Face)
10) Various Artists, *Little Steven's Underground Garage Presents Christmas a Go Go* (Wicked Cool)

JIM CALIGIURI

1) Drive-by Truckers, *Brighter Than Creation's Dark* (New West)
2) Bob Dylan, *The Bootleg Series Vol. 8: Tell Tale Signs, Rare and Unreleased 1989-2006* (Columbia/Legacy)
3) Kasey Chambers & Shane Nicholson, *Rattlin' Bones* (Sugar Hill)
4) Aimee Mann, *@#%&*! Smilers* (SuperEgo)
5) Tift Merritt, *Another Country* (Fantasy)
6) Shelby Lynne, *Just a Little Lovin'* (Lost Highway)
7) Justin Townes Earle, *The Good Life* (Bloodshot)
8) The Whigs, *Mission Control* (ATO)
9) Liam Finn, *I'll Be Lightning* (Yep Roc)
10) Delta Spirit, *Ode to Sunshine* (Rounder)

THOMAS FAWCETT

1) Erykah Badu, *New Amerykah Part One: 4th World War* (Motown)
2) Al Green, *Lay It Down* (Blue Note)
3) Don Cavalli, *Cryland* (Everloving)
4) Raphael Saadiq, *The Way I See It* (Columbia)
5) TV on the Radio, *Dear Science* (DGC/Interscope)
6) Curumin, *Japan Pop Show* (Quannum Projects)
7) Metaform, *Standing on the Shoulders of Giants* (Just)
8) *Seun Kuti & Fela's Egypt 80* (Disorient)
9) The Heavy, *Great Vengeance and Furious Fire* (Counter)
10) Bun B, *II Trill* (Rap-a-Lot)

DOUG FREEMAN

1) Blitzen Trapper, *Furr* (Sub Pop)
2) *Fleet Foxes* (Sub Pop)
3) *Vampire Weekend* (XL)
4) Beck, *Modern Guilt* (Interscope)
5) Dr. Dog, *Fate* (Park the Van)
6) Drive-by Truckers, *Brighter Than Creation's Dark* (New West)
7) Old Crow Medicine Show, *Tennessee Pusher* (Nettwerk)
8) Justin Townes Earle, *The Good Life* (Bloodshot)
9) Thao With the Get Down Stay Down, *We Brave Bee Stings and All* (Kill Rock Stars)
10) Jared Mees & the Grown Children, *Caffeine, Alcohol, Sunshine, Money* (Tender Loving Empire)

MELANIE HAUPT

1) Sigur Rós, *Með Suð í Eyrum Við Spilum Endalaust* (EMI)
2) Mates of State, *Re-Arrange Us* (Barsuk)
3) Ray LaMontagne, *Gossip in the Grain* (RCA)
4) Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds, *Dig!!! Lazarus Dig!!!* (Anti-)
5) Nada Surf, *Lucky* (Barsuk)
6) Earlimart, *Hymn and Her* (Shout! Factory)
7) Ra Ra Riot, *The Rhumb Line* (Barsuk)
8) Crooked Fingers, *Forfeit/Fortune* (Constant Artists)
9) Devotchka, *A Mad & Faithful Telling* (Anti-)
10) Amadou & Mariam, *Welcome to Mali* (Because)

CHASE HOFFBERGER

1) The Black Keys, *Attack & Release* (Nonesuch)
2) Delta Spirit, *Ode to Sunshine* (Rounder)
3) Bun B, *II Trill* (Rap-a-Lot)
4) The Roots, *Rising Down* (Def Jam)
5) The Wood Brothers, *Loaded* (Blue Note)
6) Raphael Saadiq, *The Way I See It* (Columbia)
7) Dr. Dog, *Fate* (Park the Van)
8) Q-Tip, *The Renaissance* (Universal Motown)
9) Dizzee Rascal, *Maths + English* (Definitive Jux)
10) Beck, *Modern Guilt* (Interscope)

DANIEL MEE

1) Torche, *Meanderthal* (Hydra Head)
2) Parts & Labor, *Receivers* (Jagjaguwar)
3) Boris, *Smile* (Southern Lord)
4) Wilderness, *(K)no(w)here* (Jagjaguwar)
5) Awesome Color, *Electric Aborigines* (Ecstatic Peace)
6) Magnetic Morning, *A.M.* (Friend or Faux)
7) Marnie Stern, *This Is It and I Am It and You Are It and So Is That and He Is It and She Is It and It Is It and That Is That* (Kill Rock Stars)
8) GZA, *Pro Tools* (Babygrande)
9) Thee Oh Sees, *The Master's Bedroom Is Worth Spending a Night In* (Tomlab/Castle Face)
10) Indian Jewelry, *Fake and Cheap* (Deleted Art)

MARGARET MOSER

1) Felix Cavaliere & Steve Cropper, *Nudge It Up a Notch* (Stax)
2) Lucinda Williams, *Little Honey* (Lost Highway)
3) Caroline Herring, *Lantana* (Signature Sounds)
4) Gnarls Barkley, *The Odd Couple* (Atlantic)
5) Davie Allan & the Arrows, *Moving Right Along* (Spinout)
6) Oasis, *Dig Out Your Soul* (Big Brother/Reprise)
7) Cowboy Junkies, *Trinity Revisited* (Zoe)
8) Dash Rip Rock, *Country Girlfriend* (Abitian)
9) Death Cab for Cutie, *Narrow Stairs* (Atlantic)
10) Chip Taylor, *New Songs of Freedom* (Trainwreck)

DARCIE STEVENS

1) Bon Iver, *For Emma, Forever Ago* (Jagjaguwar)
2) The Walkmen, *You & Me* (Gigantic)
3) Portishead, *Third* (Mercury/Island)
4) Beach House, *Devotion* (Carpark)
5) Meshuggah, *Obzen* (Nuclear Blast America)
6) *Vampire Weekend* (XL)
7) TV on the Radio, *Dear Science* (Interscope)
8) *Fleet Foxes* (Sub Pop)
9) Fucked Up, *The Chemistry of Common Life* (Matador)
10) Elbow, *The Seldom Seen Kid* (Geffen)

JAY TRACHTENBERG

1) Orchestra Baobab, *Made in Dakar* (World Circuit/Nonesuch)
2) Michael Franti & Spearhead, *All Rebel Rockers* (Anti-)
3) Thievery Corporation, *Radio Retaliation* (ESL)
4) Bobby Previte & the New Bump, *Set the Alarm for Monday* (Palmetto)
5) Rudresh Mahanthappa, *Kinsmen* (Pi)
6) Brad Mehldau Trio, *Live at the Village Vanguard* (Nonesuch)
7) Firewater, *The Golden Hour* (Bloodshot)
8) Various Artists, *Miles From India: A Celebration of the Music of Miles Davis* (Times Square)
9) Al Green, *Lay It Down* (Blue Note)
10) The Krayolas, *La Conquistadora* (Box)

CRITICS POLL CONTINUED FROM P.50

BEST NEW LOCAL ACT

BEETS Foot Patrol
CALIGIURI Dustin Welch & the House Band
FAWCETT Rae Davis
FREEMAN The Eastern Sea
HAUPT White Denim
HOFFBERGER Hacienda
HERNANDEZ Harlem
MEE Woodgrain
MOSER Iron City Soul Shakers
POWELL Mammoth Grinder
SCHROEDER Shapes Have Fangs
STEVENS The Sour Notes
TRACHTENBERG Cheap Fire

BEST REISSUE/BOX SET

BEETS Nick Lowe, *Jesus of Cool*
CALIGIURI Hank Williams, *The Unreleased Recordings*
FAWCETT *The Best of Jimmy Hughes*
FREEMAN Rodriguez, *Cold Fact*
HAUPT Pavement, *Brighten the Corners: Nicene Creedence Edition*
HOFFBERGER Bob Dylan, *The Bootleg Series Vol. 8: Tell Tale Signs, Rare and Unreleased 1989-2006*
HERNANDEZ Replacements canon
MEE Minor Threat, *First 2 7"s*
MOSER The Pogues, *Just Look Them Straight in the Eye and Say … Poguemahone!!*
POWELL Rodriguez, *Cold Fact*
SCHROEDER Mission of Burma, *Signals, Calls, and Marches*; *Vs.*; *The Horrible Truth About Burma*
STEVENS Genesis, *1970-1975*
TRACHTENBERG *The Best of Dennis Brown: The Ninety Years*

BEST SOUNDTRACK

BEETS *Juno*
CALIGIURI *Black Magic*
FAWCETT *The Wackness*
FREEMAN *Juno*
HAUPT *Twilight*
HOFFBERGER *Cadillac Records*
HERNANDEZ *Juno (Deluxe Edition)*
MEE *Pineapple Express*
MOSER *Honeydripper*
POWELL *Mister Lonely*
SCHROEDER *Mister Lonely*
STEVENS *Mad Men: Music From the Series, Vol. 1*
TRACHTENBERG *Shine a Light*

BEST MUSIC DVD

BEETS *Ladies and Gentlemen, the Fabulous Stains*
CALIGIURI *Joe Strummer: The Future Is Unwritten*
FAWCETT *I Got the Feelin': James Brown in the '60s*
FREEMAN *Wild Combination: A Portrait of Arthur Russell*
HAUPT Flaming Lips, *Christmas on Mars*
HOFFBERGER Rolling Stones, *Shine a Light*
HERNANDEZ *The Who at Kilburn: 1977*
MEE *Joy Division*
MOSER Cowboy Junkies, *Trinity Revisited*
POWELL *Wild Combination: A Portrait of Arthur Russell*
SCHROEDER *You Think You Really Know Me: The Gary Wilson Story*

CONTINUED ON P.54

Shiner BEERS

THANKS TO SHINER BOCK FOR PROMOTING OUR "TEXAS TOP 10" IN THE CHRONICLE EVERY WEEK!

OUR TOP 25 BEST-SELLING CDS BY TEXAS ARTISTS IN 2008

1. ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO Real Animal
2. JAMES MCMURTRY Just Us Kids
3. CAROLYN WONDERLAND Miss Understood
4. BOB SCHNEIDER When The Sun Breaks Down On The Moon
5. GRUPO FANTASMA Sonidos Gold
6. HAYES CARLL Trouble In Mind
7. SPOON Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga
8. NELO Nelo
9. LUCINDA WILLIAMS Little Honey
10. GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY Robotique Majestique





11. LOS LONELY BOYS Forgiven
12. JOE ELY Live Cactus!
13. IRON & WINE Shepherd's Dog
14. WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS What Doesn't Kill Us
15. OKKERVIL RIVER Stand Ins
16. ELIZA GILKYSON Beautiful World
17. BAND OF HEATHENS Band Of Heathens
18. WILLIE NELSON/WYNTON MARSALIS Two Men with the Blues
19. GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY Paparazzi Lightning
20. RECKLESS KELLY Bulletproof
21. SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND Strange Invitation
22. BLACK ANGELS Directions to See a Ghost
23. STORYVILLE Live at Antone's
24. MARCIA BALL Peace, Love and BBQ
25. MOTHER TRUCKERS Let's All Go To Bed



WATERLOO
Compact Discs
Records • Video
10-11 Mon- Sat 11-11 Sun
600-A North Lamar Austin, TX 78703
www.waterloorecords.com
(512)474.2500
WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

WATERLOO GLADLY ACCEPTS NATIONAL CHAIN COMPETITORS' GIFT CARDS

LONG CENTER PRESENTS

DRUMLINE LIVE

JANUARY 11 | 7:30 PM

Inspired by the film, sparks will fly with the rousing and rhythmic sounds of great trumpets, explosive athleticism and talented percussionists who form the "drumline."

Long Center

TheLongCenter.org
512.474.LONG (5664)
Tickets also available at the 3M Box Office at the Long Center. Groups 15+ call 457-5161.

2008-2009 SEASON SPONSORS H-E-B Cadillac The Statesman statesman.com TIME WARNER CABLE

BUY 3 GET 1 FREE*
*Not valid on previous purchase. Restrictions apply.

This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

DIG THE LATEST STASH: REDBONEGUITAR.COM!

REDBONE GUITAR BOUTIQUE

CUSTOM & VINTAGE + LEFT & RIGHT HANDED

AMPS • MICS • PEDALS • GEAR • SWAG

ROCK IN THE NEW YEAR!

IF YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTION IS TO LEARN TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT, T-STREET MUSIC INSTRUCTION, INSIDE REDBONE GUITAR BOUTIQUE, OFFERS LESSONS IN GUITAR, BASS, PIANO & KEYBOARD, AND DRUMS.

OUR INSTRUCTORS TEACH AT EVERY LEVEL - BEGINNER, PROFESSIONAL, OR ANYWHERE IN BETWEEN. FOR MORE DETAILS, REGARDING PRICING, SCHEDULING A LESSON, DISCOUNTS, OR ANY OTHER QUESTIONS, JUST GIVE US A CALL!

WE ALSO HAVE A WIDE SELECTION OF BEGINNER INSTRUMENTS AT REASONABLE PRICES. SO WHETHER ITS A NEW STRAP, PICKS, OR JUST STRINGS, WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO ROCK IN THE NEW YEAR!

GUITARS! GUITARS! GUITARS!

REDBONEGUITAR.COM

TURNER STREET PRODUCTIONS

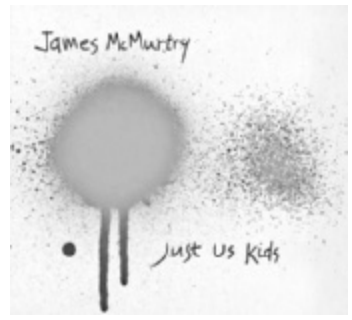
4343 McCullough Avenue in Olmos Park, San Antonio
info@redboneguitar.com 210-822-4111

Texas Top 10s

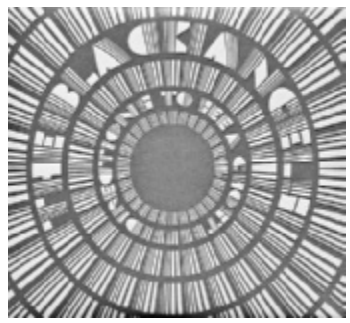
















GREG BEETS

1) White Denim, *Exposion* (Transmission Entertainment)
2) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/Manhattan/EMI)
3) Future Clouds & Radar, *Peoria* (The Star Apple Kingdom)
4) The Krayolas, *La Conquistadora* (Box)
5) Gretchen Phillips, *I Was Just Comforting Her* (Seasick Sailor)
6) Fluoxetine, *Two Weeks & Holidays*
7) Shootin' Pains, *Pray Like Crazy*
8) Adam Ahrens, *Fond du Lac* (Trampa)
9) Alexander's Dark Band, *Music to Stand by the Fireplace To*
10) The Devil Bat, *Lingers Like a Ghost* (Sister Skull)

JIM CALIGIURI

1) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/Manhattan/EMI)
2) Mother Truckers, *Let's All Go to Bed* (Funzalo)
3) Grupo Fantasma, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
4) San Saba County, *... Though Cheating Was Never an Option* (Wagonmaker)
5) Brothers and Sisters, *Fortunately* (Calla Lily)
6) Kacy Crowley, *Cave* (Stable)
7) Shearwater, *Rook* (Matador)
8) The Belleville Outfit, *Wanderin'*
9) Joe Ely & Joel Guzman, *Live Cactus!* (Rack 'Em)
10) Leatherbag, *Love & Harm* (Superpop!)

THOMAS FAWCETT

1) Grupo Fantasma, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
2) PPT, *Denglish* (Idol)
3) Ocote Soul Sounds & Adrian Quesada, *The Alchemist Manifesto* (ESL Music)
4) Rae Davis, *Positive Thinking!* (Exponential)
5) *Dan Dyer* (Fat Caddy)
6) Ethan Master of the Hawaiian Ukulele, *So Real*
7) James McMurtry, *Just Us Kids* (Lightning Rod)
8) Hayes Carll, *Trouble in Mind* (Lost Highway)
9) McPullish, *Back to Mount Zion Riddim* (Charlie's)
10) G-Christ, *Damage Is Done EP*

DOUG FREEMAN

1) Shearwater, *Rook* (Matador)
2) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/Manhattan/EMI)
3) Balmorhea, *Rivers Arms* (Western Vinyl)
4) Leatherbag, *Love & Harm* (Superpop!)
5) Brothers and Sisters, *Fortunately* (Calla Lily)
6) Graham Weber, *The Door to the Morning*
7) Okkervil River, *The Stand Ins* (Jagjaguwar)
8) The Lovely Sparrows, *Bury the Cynics* (Abandoned Love)
9) James McMurtry, *Just Us Kids* (Lightning Rod)
10) Dana Falconberry, *Oh Skies of Grey* (00:02:59)

MELANIE HAUPT

1) Shearwater, *Rook* (Matador)
2) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/Manhattan/EMI)
3) Centro-matic/South San Gabriel, *Dual Hawks* (Misra)
4) Brothers and Sisters, *Fortunately* (Calla Lily)
5) Ghostland Observatory, *Robotique Majestique* (Trashy Moped)
6) White Denim, *Exposion* (Transmission Entertainment)
7) Bruce Robison, *The New World* (Premium)
8) Old 97's, *Blame It on Gravity* (New West)
9) Okkervil River, *The Stand Ins* (Jagjaguwar)
10) James McMurtry, *Just Us Kids* (Lightning Rod)

CHASE HOFFBERGER

1) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/Manhattan/EMI)
2) Hacienda, *Loud Is the Night* (Alive Natural Sound)
3) Shearwater, *Rook* (Matador)
4) The Black Angels, *Directions to See a Ghost* (Light in the Attic)
5) Diasporic, *Mass Appeal*
6) Grupo Fantasma, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
7) White Denim, *Exposion* (Transmission Entertainment)
8) Clemits, *Tomorrows Friend* (Blue Room)
9) Young Nick, *Gone* (Dirty Politics Entertainment)
10) Mother Truckers, *Let's All Go to Bed* (Funzalo)

DANIEL MEE

1) Grupo Fantasma, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
2) The Weird Weeds, *I Miss This* (Autobus)
3) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/Manhattan/EMI)
4) Woozyhelmet, *Get Down*
5) Carolyn Wonderland, *Miss Understood* (Bismeaux)
6) *Horse + Donkey*
7) Last Ride In, *Washed Up: The Story of Captain Chokebone* (Lower)
8) Yuppie Pricks, *Balls.* (Chicken Ranch)
9) Southpaw Jones, *Cruelty* (Freshly Picked Music)
10) The Dirty Hearts, *Pigs* (Socyermom)

MARGARET MOSER

1) *Dan Dyer* (Fat Caddy)
2) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/Manhattan/EMI)
3) Ariel Abshire, *Exclamation Love* (Darla)
4) Grupo Fantasma, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
5) Eve & the Exiles, *Blow Your Mind* (Serpent)
6) 3 Balls of Fire, *Jet Set Guitars* (Deep Eddy)
7) James McMurtry, *Just Us Kids* (Lightning Rod)
8) 25 Smokin' Figurados, *Divine Spirits, Holy Smoke*
9) Southpaw Jones, *Cruelty* (Freshly Picked Music)
10) Vallejo, *Thicker Than Water* (VMG/Quandra)

DARCIE STEVENS

1) The Sour Notes, *The Meat of the Fruit*
2) Balmorhea, *Rivers Arms* (Western Vinyl)
3) White Denim, *Exposion* (Transmission Entertainment)
4) Shearwater, *Rook* (Matador)
5) The Black Angels, *Directions to See a Ghost* (Light in the Attic)
6) Eliza Gilkyson, *Beautiful World* (Red House)
7) Red Leaves, *By Road or Rail*
8) The Sword, *Gods of the Earth* (Kemado)
9) The Moonhangers, *The Last of the New York Sessions* (Bloodchili)
10) Horse + Donkey, *Dreams*

JAY TRACHTENBERG

1) Grupo Fantasma, *Sonidos Gold* (Aire Sol)
2) James McMurtry, *Just Us Kids* (Lightning Rod)
3) Alejandro Escovedo, *Real Animal* (Back Porch/Manhattan/EMI)
4) Okkervil River, *The Stand Ins* (Jagjaguwar)
5) The Black Angels, *Directions to See a Ghost* (Light in the Attic)
6) Ocote Soul Sounds & Adrian Quesada, *The Alchemist Manifesto* (ESL)
7) Alex Coke, Tina Marsh, & Steve Feld, *It's Possible* (Voxlox)
8) *The Black & White Years* (Brando)
9) Scrappy Jud Newcomb, *Ride the High Country* (Freedom)
10) The Summer Wardrobe, *Cajun Prairie Fire* (Sauspop)

CRITICS POLL CONTINUED FROM P.52

STEVENS *A Colbert Christmas: The Greatest Gift of All!*
TRACHTENBERG *Rahsaan Roland Kirk: Live in '63 & '67*

BEST DISCOVERY

BEETS WFMU's Beware of the Blog
CALIGIURI **www.the9513.com**
FAWCETT Garage soul revival
FREEMAN Arthur Russell
HAUPT Amadou & Mariam
HOFFBERGER Delta Spirit
HERNANDEZ Bruce Springsteen bootlegs
MEE Wreckless Eric
MOSER Second Life
POWELL Club 1808
SCHROEDER Little Stolen Moments
STEVENS Nomad
TRACHTENBERG America's triumph of hope and reason over fear and ignorance

R.I.P.

BEETS Isaac Hayes, Bo Diddley, Jimmy Carl Black
CALIGIURI Paul Newman, Levi Stubbs, George Carlin
FAWCETT Odetta, Isaac Hayes, Alton Ellis
FREEMAN Danny Roy Young, Odetta, the Bush administration
HAUPT Isaac Hayes, Odetta, Yma Sumac
HOFFBERGER Jerry Wexler, Danny Federici, Guns n' Roses
HERNANDEZ Bo Diddley, Jerry Wexler, Rick Wright
MEE Mitch Mitchell, Buddy Miles, Jimmy Carl Black
MOSER Bo Diddley, Danny Roy Young, Chris Holzhaus
POWELL The Year of Austin Music, the Backyard
SCHROEDER George Carlin, Odetta, Bo Diddley
STEVENS Rick Wright, Isaac Hayes, Mitch Mitchell
TRACHTENBERG Doug Hall, Danny Roy Young, Johnny Griffin ■

News of the Weird

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



LEAD STORY

In several European countries, identifying the "naughty" kids at Christmastime is not Santa's job but is left to unsavory legendary icons who have endured for centuries (according to a December series of articles in Germany's *Der Spiegel*). In Italy, determinations are made by the extremely ugly witch La Befana, who has the ability to fly her broomstick through keyholes into bad kids' houses. In Austria, Krampus pays the naughty ones visits as a 7-foot-tall horned devil with a long tongue and a goat's head. And in the Netherlands, Sinterklaas' helper is Zwarte Piet ("Black Pete"), who, unlike Sinter, gets sooty when climbing down chimneys delivering twigs to the shoes of misbehavers. (However, the Netherlands pair has a big advantage over the North Pole-dwelling Santa, in that they reside in sunny Spain and arrive at Christmastime by steamship.)

INEXPLICABLE

The Wish Room lingerie shop on Japanese Internet shopping mall Rakuten announced in November that it had already sold more than 300 of its new bras specially made for men (about $30 each) since the product launch earlier in the month. A Wish Room official told a Reuters reporter, "We've been getting feedback from customers saying, 'Wow, we'd been waiting for this for such a long time.'"

Twice recently (in November, off Atlantic Beach, N.C., and in October, off Amble, Northunderland, England), anglers encountered (and rescued) dogs that were swimming about a mile from land and headed toward the open sea. The pooches, a Labrador retriever and a cairn terrier, were both said to be disoriented and uncooperative with rescuers.

CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE

In a March change of regulations, the Pentagon began saving money by reducing "combat-injury" benefits for all except those wounded while actually fighting, explaining that "combat"-related injuries were simply not worthy of full compensation. Thus, in examples offered by *The Washington Post* in November, Marine Cpl. James Dixon and Army Sgt. Lori Meshell were not entitled to full combat-injury coverage for their Iraq wounds (Dixon from a roadside bomb and a land mine and Meshell while diving for cover during a mortar attack) because neither was actually fighting at the time. (Dixon, initially denied about $16,000 by the classification, recently won a hard-fought reversal, but Meshell, drawing $1,200 less per month because of the change, is still appealing.)

The *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, reporting the latest of 10 lawsuits against dentist Thomas Laney, 55, found "flaws" in Washington state's medical disciplinary system, in that Laney was apparently doing "full-body cosmetic surgeries." Laney was being sued this time by a woman for allegedly botching her breast reduction. His attorney told a reporter that negative outcomes happen but that Laney should not be held responsible unless the patient suffers deformities that are "terribly, terribly wrong." (When an earlier patient of his died after surgery, Laney was "disciplined" with a fine and an order to get additional training.)

The British Federation of Herpetologists announced in November that the number of reptiles kept as pets in the UK is probably greater than the number of dogs (8.5 million to about 6 million, with cats at 9 million). One benchmark the federation uses for its calculation is the booming sales of reptile food, such as locusts, frozen rodents, and crickets (now about 20 million a week).

MODERN OBSESSIONS

Professionals at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, told an annual meeting of radiologists in Chicago in December that they had discovered an alarming new teenage trend of self-mutilation: Girls deliberately inserting objects into their arms, hands, feet, ankles, and necks (including needles, staples, wood, stone, glass, and crayons). According to the *Chicago Tribune*, the hospital reported extracting 52 such objects from 10 girls in a three-year period and regarded the practice as an extension of the more common self-cutting. Other studies have shown that at least 13% of high school students have deliberately injured themselves at least once.

UPDATE

When "News of the Weird" last mentioned Andy Park, of Melksham, England, in 2002, he was in his eighth straight year of celebrating Christmas every single day of his life, with not only seasonal decorations and cards mailed to himself but a full holiday meal including turkey and Champagne. However, as he told the *Daily Mail* in November, "The credit crunch is getting to me big time," and he has been forced to cut back a bit on the presents he gives himself. Nonetheless, every morning since July 14, 1994, Park has arisen and opened his presents before starting on his full meal and mincemeat pie. He also watches the queen's Christmas speech on video. Yes, he admits, "People do think I'm [nuts]."

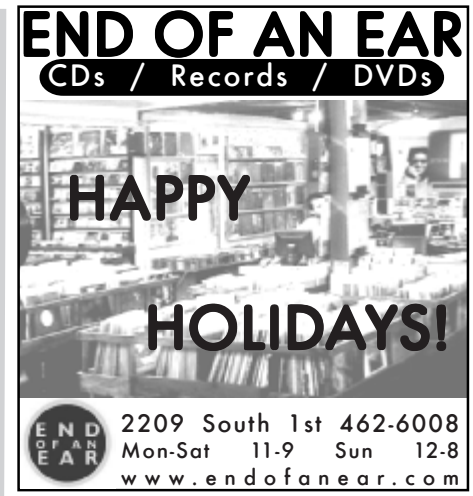
A 'NEWS OF THE WEIRD' CLASSIC (COLUMN OF APRIL 28, 1989)

In 1983, convicted South Carolina murderer Michael Godwin, then 22, succeeded in getting an appeals court to reduce his death-by-electric-chair sentence to one of life in prison at the Central Correctional Institution in Columbia, S.C. Six years later, in March 1989, while sitting naked on a metal toilet and attempting to fix earphones that were connected to a television set, Godwin bit into a wire and was electrocuted.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at **www.newsoftheweird.blogspot.com** *(or* **www.newsoftheweird.com***).*

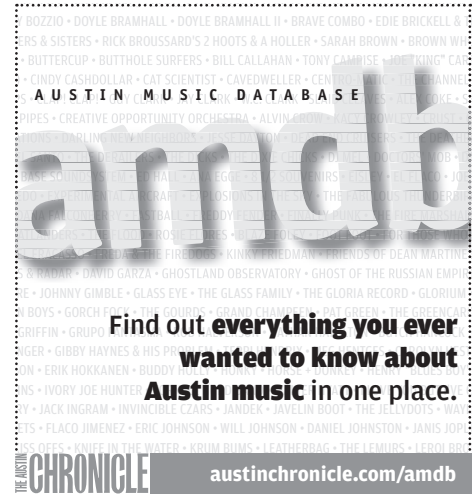
Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or **weirdnewstips@yahoo.com**.

©2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE









this week's community listings

WEDNESDAY, DEC 31 TO THURSDAY, JAN 8

calendar

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

WEDNESDAY 31

ALLGO NEW YEARS Welcome 2009 with Texas' statewide QPC group (Queer People of Color). *9pm. Ciao Chow, 6019 N. I-35. $35, $25 in advance.* **www.allgo.org**.

LEZZIE FAIRE: FOODIES NEW YEAR In the words of Kitty, "Get to know every single lesbian from Austin, from the state of Texas, from the USA, and beyond." *7pm. House Wine, 408 Josephine, 322-5210. $5.* **beatsagogo@aol.com**.

NEW YEAR'S EVE LISTINGS For all you last-minute New Year's party people, we've compiled a list of New Year's events. Check out our guide online at **austinchronicle.com/newyears**.

OCH NEW YEARS Champagne and entertainment packages: and not just on the pretty boys. *Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.*

SCHLITTERBAHN'S HILL COUNTRY CHRISTMAS If you thought Schlitterbahn was sensory overload in the summer, you should see it decked out for the holidays. There's no Lazy River to help you now. Ice skating, light shows, Rudolph's Reindeer Barn, and a winter wassail hot tub (?!) all ring in the holidays for the whole family. Live shows from the professionals and concerts from local schools up the wow and cute factors, respectively. One of the slides will even be repurposed as a sled run. Don't expect a silent night. *Through Jan. 4. Schlitterbahn, 381 E. Austin St., New Braunfels, 830/625-2351. $15 ($13, children).* **www.schlitterbahnchristmas.com**.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
***After the Thin Man* New Year's Eve Feast** *@ Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm*

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
New Year's Eve! *All over town!*

THURSDAY 01

12 STEPS TO THE HOLIDAYS Make a date with that time-honored holiday tradition: dysfunction. Oh yes. It is time for *12 Steps to a More Dysfunctional Christmas*. Get your tickets now. Or wait till the last minute, complain about it, and tell your mom it's her fault. *Thursdays-Saturdays, through Jan. 3, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-30.*

CAP METRO NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE Buses run on a Sunday schedule today. Don't bother to call and complain, because the offices are closed, as well. *474-1200.* **www.capmetro.org**.

FIRST THURSDAY Music, food, and shopping. *From the river, south on South Congress. Free.*

SCHLITTERBAHN'S HILL COUNTRY CHRISTMAS (See Wednesday, 12/31.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
***El Topo* @ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm**

FRIDAY 02

BOARD GAME NIGHT AT Q You need only one letter to find Austin's HQ for guys 18-29: Q. Social support, coming-out support, health education, parties, discussion groups, and the occasional game night. Like tonight's. *6pm. Q Center, 3408 West Ave., 420-8557.* **mp_austin@sbcglobal.net**, **www.qboyz.org**.

EXPERIENCE MUSIC TOGETHER Children younger than 5 years of age and their parents are invited to sample classes by Heartsong Music. Start nurturing your kid's inner musician early. *Fri., Jan. 2: 10:15, 11:15am, 3:15, & 4:15pm. 2700 W. Anderson #320, 371-9506. Free.* **www.heartsongmusictogether.com**.

THANK GOODNESS I'M BI is the ambisexterous happy hour that gathers on the first and third Fridays of every month. Look for room directly across from the dartboards. *7pm. Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth, 370-9573.* **www.main.org/binetaustin**.

12 STEPS TO THE HOLIDAYS (See Thursday, 1/1.)

SCHLITTERBAHN'S HILL COUNTRY CHRISTMAS (See Wednesday, 12/31.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Dark Side of the Rainbow: *The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon* @ Alamo Ritz, 10:20pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week *Emo's*
The Deaf Ears *Hole in the Wall*
Chloe Day *Elysium*
Ingebrigt Haaker Flaten *Salvage Vanguard Theater*
Free Week *Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville*
Brazos, **Harlem**, **Canopy** *Lamberts*

SATURDAY 03

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET features fresh organic produce, meats, and cheeses straight from surrounding Texas farms, plus live music every week. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free.* **www.austinfarmersmarket.org**.

BEAR CREEK GUIDED HIKE Sign up online, and find out where to meet for a 3.5-mile rugged hike through restored grasslands to the banks of Bear Creek. *9am-12:30pm. Free.* **www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/onlineregistration/ecowebevents.cfm**.

BUSINESS MANNERS FOR GRADUATES Are you entering the work force? Well, you never know when a future employer will be watching. Preregister, and get the social skills that could pay the bills. *3:30pm. Golden Corral, 3607 S. Lamar, 821-2699. $25.* **haroldalmon@yahoo.com**.

LUPUS FOUNDATION MEET-UP Open discussion for those affected by Lupus. *First Saturday of the month, 5:30pm. Seton Medical Center, McFadden Conference Room, 1201 W. 38th, 653-4134. Free.* **www.lupus.meetup.com/125**.

MASTER CHANGE IN YOUR LIFE Learn to stop letting life's changes dictate your path. *2pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. 206-B, 453-0331. Free.* **www.eckankar-texas.org**.

PAIN WORKSHOP Learn to deal with arthritis or any other aches and pains you may have. *2:30pm. Austin Fitness Martial Arts, 4327 S. First Ste. 104-D, 892-3366. Free.* **www.naturalhealthaustin.com**.

SAHAJA YOGA MEDITATION aims to help you achieve balance, inner peace, and resistance to stress, depression, and anxiety. *Saturdays, 11am-noon. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek Blvd., 828-0129. Free.* **www.austinsahajayoga.org**.

YELLERDAWG/SATURDAY SAGES DEMOCRATS MEETING *Sat., Jan. 3, 11am. Tres Amigos, 1801 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 327-1776.*

12 STEPS TO THE HOLIDAYS (See Thursday, 1/1.)

SCHLITTERBAHN'S HILL COUNTRY CHRISTMAS (See Wednesday, 12/31.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
***The Rocky Horror Picture Show* @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid**

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week *Emo's*
Free Week *Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville*
Tiny Vipers *Stubb's*
Li'l Cap'n Travis, **Pink Nasty** *Continental Club*
The Archibalds *Hole in the Wall*

SUNDAY 04

BULL CREEK HIKE Register online for the meeting location before heading out from a rocky plateau into golden-cheeked warbler habitat. *1:30-5pm. Free.* **www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/onlineregistration/ecowebevents.cfm**.

CAGED BIRDS SING Rob Faubion and his lovely "ladies" bring La Cage, voted the Best Female Impersonation Show in Texas. Thank goodness. Chers and Whitneys and Barbras done up with ridiculous flair. *Sundays, 9:30 & 11:30pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.*

ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN The new year is here; time to leave the past behind. The ethical society hosts this burning bowl ceremony to help clean the slate. *10am. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 835-9008. Free.* **www.esoa.org**.

FAMILY FEUD AT RAIN Two shows, every Sunday night. To sign up, see the manager on duty, who may or may not tongue kiss your boyfriend like Richard Dawson. Slots are limited, and the prizes grand. *8:30 & 9pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150.* **www.rainon4th.com**.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM Professor Sherri Greenberg of the LBJ School of Public Affairs discusses the speaker race and the upcoming Texas legislative session. *11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168.* **www.austinuu.org**.

TRINIDAD SCREENING AT ALAMO RITZ From Wild West outpost to transexual mecca, Trinidad, Colo., is profiled in this awesome doc made by some hometown honeys. Today's screenings benefit the Transgender Education Network of Texas. *5 & 7:30pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. $8.50.* **www.trinidadthemovie.com**.

SCHLITTERBAHN'S HILL COUNTRY CHRISTMAS (See Wednesday, 12/31.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
***Trinidad* @ Alamo Ritz, 5, 7:30pm**

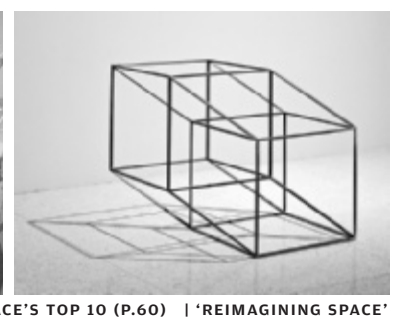
MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week *Emo's*
Free Week *Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville*
Trans-Siberian Orchestra *Frank Erwin Center*

MONDAY 05

BALANCING HORMONES NATURALLY Find out the best natural remedies to the symptoms of PMS and menopause. *6:30pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 892-3366. Free with cafe purchase.* **www.naturalhealthaustin.com**.

RECOMMENDED
KIDS
GAY INTEREST







L - R: DEMOCRATIC MEETINGS (SEE TUESDAY) | GAY PLACE'S TOP 10 (P.60) | 'REIMAGINING SPACE' (ARTS, P.62) | 'THE SPIRIT' (FILM, P.66) | INGEBRIGT HAAKER FLATEN (MUSIC, P.76)

DONATE YOUR CAR TODAY!

Keep Austin Weird
Support Local Charities

BEST OF '08 AUSTIN

FREE PICK-UP · TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Call toll free 866-398-5995

Donate online at

www.carstrucksandboats.com



CAR

Charitable Auto Recycling
& Public Auto Auctions
12253 Camino Real, Niederwald, TX

Live Music!
Cold Drinks!
Hot Food!
Good Times!

Satsys & COWGIRL

ESTHER'S FOLLIES presents CAFE

Wednesday
Jan 7th
7:30



TEXCENTRIC comedy RADIO HOUR

5001 E. Ben White
512-444-2020

TXRD LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS

SUNDAY, JAN 4

Banked-Track Roller Derby



ALL-SCAR ARMY

VS.

The 2008 Calvello Cup Champions

HOLY ROLLERS

★ LIVE MUSIC BY ★

SOBER DAZE AND NO NO NO HOPES

PALMER EVENTS CENTER, 900 BARTON SPRINGS RD
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM, BOUT STARTS AT 7PM

TICKETS: $10 FROM A ROLLERGIRL OR WITH A MILITARY ID; $13 AT FRONTGATETICKETS.COM, GLASSY KNOLL, LOWBROW EMPORIUM, HEADHUNTERS TIKI BAR, THE ONION PIZZERIA, PRONTO FOOD MART, TEXAS CHILI PARLOR; $15 AT THE DOOR; KIDS UNDER 12 ARE FREE

★ CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE BOUT? ★
CHECK OUT OUR LIVE WEBCAST AT
WWW.TXRD.COM



Volunteers earn perks to attend SXSW

Sign up now at **http://volunteer.sxsw.com** and attend one of the 2009 Volunteer Calls.

Email **volunteer@sxsw.com** for more info.

SXSW Volunteer Call 2009
Sunday, January 25th, 2:00-5:00pm
Monday, January 26th, 6:00-9:00pm
Hilton Hotel, 500 E 4th St
Governor's Ballroom, 4th Floor

kidsActing voted again

BEST

Camps & Classes
'05 - '06 - '07 - '08
Austin Chronicle Reader's Poll Austin Family

12 locations
KidsActing

Winter Break Camp

FUN! Enroll NOW!

new kidsActing semester starts Jan.

kidsactingstudio.com 836-KIDS

CHRONIC

THE *CHRONICLE*'S BLOGTASTIC MASHUP

austinchronicle.com/chronic

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD daytrips

Looking back at 2008, it was a year of prolonged drought broken by an occasional flood in Texas. Here are the Top 10 events for day-trippers.

1) **Hurricane Ike** roared across Galveston Island in the early morning hours of Sept. 13, all but wiping communities on the Bolivar Peninsula off the map. The storm was the third costliest hurricane in U.S. history and spread its path of destruction from Houston to the outskirts of Tyler in Northeast Texas.

2) **Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center** in Orange reopened after 50 years of being closed to the public. Begun in 1937 as a private preserve by H.J. Lutcher Stark, the park and its beauty became known worldwide. In 1958, it was almost totally destroyed by a freak snowstorm. The Stark Foundation reopened the gardens to the public in March 2008. Among Hurricane Ike's victims were five years of landscaping work. The nature center hopes to reopen again in spring of 2009.

3) **Flooding in West Texas?** How screwy is this year's weather? The Rio Grande spilled over its banks and caused the closing of the Presidio to Lajitas road (FM 170) in September.

4) **Strange glowing objects** in the night sky had residents of Erath County more than a little upset. At first the military denied any knowledge of flying objects in the area, which only made residents more concerned. Almost a month after the first sightings, the Air Force begrudgingly admitted to having conducted training flights in the area.



5) Houston's **Beer Can House**, 222 Malone, reopened to the public after nearly five years of restoration. In the 1960s, John Milkovisch decorated his bungalow with flattened beer cans and pull tabs so he wouldn't have to paint. Folk art or just tacky? You decide.

6) The **U.S. Department of Homeland Security continued to build a fence** along the state's southern border despite protests from residents. No longer will an oral declaration of citizenship be enough when returning from shopping trips to border towns; now you must show a government-issued ID card or passport to get back home.

7) The June 2008 issue of *Texas Monthly* named tiny **Snow's BBQ** in Lexington as the best barbecue in Texas. The fame almost tripled the amount of meat the joint sells on Saturday mornings, the only time it is open.

8) **Bobby Mueller**, owner of Louie Mueller Barbecue in Taylor and a perennial favorite in the *Texas Monthly* barbecue listings, passed away Sept. 6. He was 69.

9) **Tom Jones**, one of the founders of Houston's Art Car Parade and the Art Car Museum, was killed by a drunken driver only hours after the May parade. He was 51.

10) **Ray Miller**, creator of the day-tripping television show *The Eyes of Texas*, passed away on Sept. 27. The legendary Houston newsman was 89.

913th in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, *a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for $8.95, plus $3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.*

outoftown

NATURE IN LIGHTS is a drive-through park with more than 100 animated light displays choreographed to the tunes of the season plus Santa's Village with refreshments and seasonal crafts. *Through Jan. 4, 5:30-11pm. Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area, Fort Hood, 254/287-2523. $5 per car.* **www.hoodmwr.com**.

TOYS OF YESTERYEAR Now that you've unwrapped the latest in toy technology, take a look back at the toys your grandparents might have opened so many Christmases ago. *Through Feb. 8. Stevens Gallery, National Ranching Heritage Center, 3121 Fourth St., Lubbock, 806/742-0498.* **www.nrhc.com**.

THE ICE AT DISCOVERY GREEN turns the model-boat basin on Kinder Lake into a 7,200-square-foot outdoor ice rink with special programs and public skating. *Through Jan. 19. Downtown Houston, 713/434-7465. $10.* **www.discoverygreen.com/icerink**.

MAX ERNST IN THE GARDEN OF NYMPH ANCOLIE showcases the recently restored mural by surrealist artist Ernst, along with some of his rarely exhibited paintings, drawings, and sculptures. *Through Feb. 15. The Menil Collection, Houston, 713/525-9400. Free.* **www.menil.org**.

FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRACY chronicles the lives of seven ethnically diverse Americans during World War II, who, despite racism, sexism, and anti-immigrant sentiments, served their country in the armed forces during the war and advanced civil rights here at home. *Through Jan. 18. UTSA's Institute of Texan Cultures, 210/458-2330.* **www.texancultures.com**.

EVENING STAR PARTIES Tour the constellations, and view the moon, planets, stars, galaxies, and other objects through large telescopes with trained professionals leading programs for the entire family. *Every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. McDonald Observatory, Davis Mountains, 432/426-3640.* **www.mcdonaldobservatory.org**.

HAPPY HOUR YOGA Get your hatha flowing. *Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

LEGAL CLINIC Free legal advice from Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. *Most Mondays & Wednesdays, 6pm. Mondays, Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell; Wednesdays, Webb Middle School, 601 E. St. John's Ave., 374-2700. Free.* **www.trla.org**.

LIVE MUSIC: 'BOUT TIME Yup. You read right. Weekly live music at everybody's fave up-north gay bar. It's … 'bout time. *'Bout Time, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339.* **fusenote.com**.

NATURAL SOLUTIONS TO ALLERGIES Learn the many ways – medications, herbal remedies, detoxification, diet modification – to sneezeless seasons. *6:30pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 892-3366. Free.* **www.naturalhealthaustin.com**.

QI GONG Let Dr. Tom Gore give your life force a boost through this ancient Chinese art of small, slow movements. *Mondays, 9:30am. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. $5 suggested donation.* **www.rutamaya.net**.

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week *Emo's*
Free Week *Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville*
Blackie *The Parlor*

TUESDAY 06

BUSINESS STARTUP ORIENTATION RSVP to this city-sponsored event, and learn all you need to know to start your own small business. *9am. Clarion Inn & Suites, 2200 S. I-35, 974-7800. Free.* **www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp**.

CHICAS VERDES Are you an eco-minded lady looking for other green girls to hang out with? Check out Chicas Verdes' monthly meeting. E-mail to RSVP. *First Tuesdays, 11:45am. Mr. Natural, 2414-A S. Lamar, 482-5407.* **katie.jensen@austinenergy.com**.

CHOOSE YOUR DEMOCRATIC MEETING Austin Democrats unite … separately. Three distinct meetings for the decidedly left-leaning. Capital Area Progressive Democrats meet at the AFL-CIO (*1106 Lavaca*) at *5:30pm*, the Capital Area Asian American Democrats gather at First Chinese BBQ (*10901 N Lamar*) at *6:30pm*, and the Stonewall Democrats congregate at Scholz Garten (*1607 San Jacinto*) at *7:30pm*. Republicans are invited to stay home.

ENGAGE SPEAKER SERIES Local experts discuss how to bring the discussion of poverty in Central Texas to the forefront. Isn't the truest test of a country's prosperity how well the poorest live? *7:30am. Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones, 499-0435. $25 ($20, members).* **www.leadershipaustin.org**.

GIG FOR GOD Creative Spirit's God Investigating Group meets on the deck to discuss anything. We said, "anything." *Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm. Freddie's Place, 1703 S. First, 445-9197.*

SIERRA CLUB MEETING Find out what the Sierra Club priorities will be when the 81st Texas Legislature convenes. Other environmentally friendly topics will also be discussed. The meeting is open to the public. *7pm. Texas State Teachers Association, 316 W. 12th, 877/275-8782. Free.*

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Brocca

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Mean Girls *@ Alamo Ritz, 7:20pm*
Howling II *@ Alamo Ritz, 10pm*

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week *Emo's*
Free Week *Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville*

WEDNESDAY 07

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB Local business bigwig Jeff Connally describes his yearly experience hiking the Appalachian Trail. *7am. Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, UT Club, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. $15.* **www.mbcaustin.org**.

MIDWEEK AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET This growers-only market features fresh food, chef demos, kids activities, live music, and more every week, rain or shine. *Wednesdays, 3-7pm. The Triangle, 46th Street, between Guadalupe and Lamar. Free.* **www.austinfarmersmarket.org**.

STARGATE BY METATRON A potluck followed by a spiritual session with an angel channeled through Sasha White. A visit to her website explains a lot. *6:30-9pm. Healing Light Center, 7018 William Wallace Way, 278-0559. Donations accepted.* **www.sashawhite.com**.

STRATEGIES FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS Learn to manage your credit and keep your small business flourishing. *9am. International Center of Austin, 201 E. Second, 974-7800. $25.* **www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp**.

UNDERSTADING FIBROMYALGIA Get information on fibromyalgia's causes, effects, and remedies. *7pm. St. David's Hospital South, 901 W. Ben White, Classroom 1, 892-3366. Free.* **www.naturalhealthaustin.com**.

LEGAL CLINIC (See Monday.)

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week *Emo's*
Free Week *Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville*

THURSDAY 08

GIRLSTART FOR GROWNUPS Learn to give yourself a money makeover at this workshop for the fiscally impaired. Even if you're financially stable, learn to keep your hard-earned dollars. *11:30am. Girlstart Tech Center, 1400 W. Anderson, 916-4775. $50.* **www.girlstart.org/workshops/adult-workshops.asp**.

KA-ASHO AFRIKAN WOMEN'S TEXTILE GATHERINGS Women of African descent are invited to hone their skills, learn new ones, and maintain ancestral traditions at this textile lounge. E-mail or call to RSVP. *Thursdays, 6:30-8:30pm. 1300 Yorkshire Dr., 552-6277. Free.* **sankofaasafo@gmail.com**.

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISER PUBLIC MEETING The six candidates for the city of Austin Neighborhood Planning & Zoning Department's neighborhood adviser position will answer your questions – submitted before *Jan. 4* to **john.beasley@ci.austin.tx.us** – at this public forum. Listen up, because this guy will be reppin' the hood that is Austin. *7am. One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd., 974-3251.*

PARENTS OF DYSLEXIC CHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP meets today to discuss Structuring a Supportive Home Life. *7pm. Scottish Rite Learning Center, 12871 Hwy. 183 N., Rm. 203, 471-1231.*

PLANNING A MARKETING STRATEGY Go online to register and get some small-business know-how. *8am-noon. International Center of Austin, 201 E. Second, 974-7800. $25.* **www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp**.

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week *Emo's*
Patrice Pike, **Joy Davis** *Saxon Pub*
Free Week *Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 16 issue is Monday, Jan. 5**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Ash Bell (Gay Place): **gayplace@austinchronicle.com**.

Mark Fagan (Sports): **gameplans@austinchronicle.com**.

James Renovitch (everything else): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor, 454-5766 or **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

now . . .

FOODIES Or as they in the know, whose love dare not speak its name, say: Women Who Love Women Who Love Food. Yuh huh. This legendary e-mail-based social network holds weekly meet-ups, private house parties, and special events for the lay-deez. Somebody has to. E-mail Kitty Poo-Poo to get on the list. **beatsagogo@aol.com**.

HELPING HANDS CENTER needs strong, dependable males to help load/unload groceries twice monthly. *Helping Hands Center, 1151 San Bernard St., 472-2298.*

HOST A CREEK CLEANUP Is the creek you love filled with beer cans and six-pack rings? All you have to do is gather some friends to clean it up, and Keep Austin Beautiful and Watershed Protection and Development Review will give you all the guidance and materials you need. *391-0617. Free.* **www.keepaustinbeautiful.org/creekcleanup**.

BLOGGITY BLOG BLOG BLOG Why wait 'til Thursday? Come visit us online throughout the holidays to watch them droppin' balls at the **Gay Place Blog**. *454-5766.* **gayplace@austinchronicle.com**, **austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog**.

AUSTIN ROUNDUP This local nonprofit hosts an annual conference (next one slated for late January 2009) for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender members of AA and Al-Anon. *Journey Church, 3009 Industrial Terrace, 439-7410.* **chairs@austinroundup.com**, **www.austinroundup.com**.

DONATIONS FOR WINTER SEASON With temperatures dropping, it's time to remember those without protection from the elements. New or gently used blankets, jeans, and coats are needed. Go online or call for more info. *Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, 500 E. Seventh, 305-4174.* **www.frontsteps.org**.

YMCA MEMBERSHIPS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES Military families across the nation can capitalize on a free membership to the YMCA of their choice courtesy of the Department of Defense. Go online for more on this armed services outreach initiative. *YMCAs around Austin.* **www.asymca.org**, **www.austinymca.org**.

COATS FOR CUBS is accepting real fur – be it a coat, trim, or other type of clothing – to be used as bedding for orphaned or injured wildlife. From now till Earth Day (*April 22*), you may drop off your furs at Buffalo Exchange (just tell them they're for Coats for Cubs). *Buffalo Exchange, 2904 Guadalupe, 480-9925.* **www.humanesociety.org/coatsforcubs**.

SKATING ON THE PLAZA Lace up the rental skates, enjoy an hour of skating on Whole Foods' plaza, and act like you're a couple of latitudinal lines north. *Through Jan. 12, 10am-9pm. Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 542-2260. $10 per hour session, including skate rental.* **www.wholefoodsmarket.com**.

SCHOOLS FOR IKE VICTIMS The Austin Independent School District is looking for children's clothing and school supplies for students who were affected by Hurricane Ike. Drop them off at *Baker Administration Center, 3908 Ave. B, Rm. 204, between 8am and 4pm on weekdays*. The deadline for donations is *Jan. 30*.

PROJECT FEEDERWATCH Help the Cornell Lab of Ornithology track the movements of birds throughout Central Texas. Sign up online, get an instructional handbook and bird-identifying poster, and watch those bird feeders. Report the species and number of flying visitors, and get your data collected and analyzed. You could be part of the next bird breakthrough. *800/843-2473. $15.* **www.feederwatch.org**.

VOLUNTEER FOR AGLIFF WORKING GROUPS Austin's queer film fest is organizing – big time – for the upcoming year. They've developed a strategic plan, and now all they need is you: dedicated volunteers to fill office, programming, and fundraising goals and to offer feedback to evaluate the festival's current direction. **volunteer@agliff.org**, **www.agliff.org**.

LOTS OF MILK Gaywad gift alert! Just in time for Gus Van Sant's *Milk* biopic starring Sean Penn, Cinetic is making the excellent Rob Epstein doc *The Times of Harvey Milk* through Amazon Video on Demand and iTunes. **www.cineticmedia.com**.

HRC 2009 GALA COMMITTEE HRC is looking for a few good Volvos … oops, we mean volunteers … to assist in planning the 2009 gala to be held here in Austin in late March. *Free.* **volunteers@hrcaustin.org**, **www.hrcaustin.org**.

SCIENCE CONTEST FOR STUDENTS WITH HEARING LOSS Rochester Institute of Technology is looking for entries for its National Science Fair for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students. See the rules and get an application online, and you might be on your way to majestic upstate New York. Submissions are due by *Jan. 15*. *Free.* **www.rit.edu/NTID/ScienceFairNR**.

YBP CALL FOR DONATIONS Yellow Bike Project is seeking donations to help it realize its dream of a new headquarters. YBP is more than halfway to its goal of $250,000 but needs your help down the homestretch. **www.austinyellowbike.org**.

STEPHAN PYLES CULINARY SCHOLARSHIP COOK-OFF Student chefs vie for the $15,000 scholarship as they create menus based on a list of Texas ingredients. Applications are available at **www.winefoodfoundation.org** and due before *Jan. 26. 327-7555.*

PLANET CONNECT GRANT PROGRAM Are you a high school student who recognizes an environmental need in your school or community? Then go to **www.planet-connect.org** for more info or to apply for one of numerous grants being offered by the Weather Channel. Your green idea must be realized before the *Jan. 20* deadline.

LETTERS TO SALA AT TEXAS HILLEL On display: a rare collection of Holocaust-era letters, postcards, photographs, and official documents that Sala Kirschner managed to save at great personal risk after surviving five years of Nazi work camps. *Topfer Center for Jewish Life, Texas Hillel, 2105 San Antonio St.* **www.texashillel.org**.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING Put your Christmas tree at the curb on the same day as your recycling is picked up, and it will be turned to mulch. If it's larger than 6 feet, the city asks that you cut it in half. If you don't have curbside pickup, bring the offending tree to the Zilker Park Polo Fields on *Dec. 28, Jan. 3-4, or Jan. 10*. For information on free mulch pickup at Zilker, go to **www.cityofaustin.org/parks/events.htm** or call 311. **www.cityofaustin.org/sws/xmastree.htm**.

LOCKS OF LOVE HAIRCUTS Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday through the month of January, Avant's three locations will offer free cuts for those donating their hair to disadvantaged children whose illness has caused severe hair loss. Check the avant website for a list of donation guidelines. *Avant salons, 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 318 Colorado, & 9600 S. I-35. $20.* **www.avantsalon.com/newsletter/locksoflove**.

& later

PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION RIDESHARE Traveling to the Obama inauguration? Need a ride, or just want to keep your carbon footprint small? Go to **www.obamainaugurationrideshare.com** to learn what your options are and maybe find a like-minded compatriot to play I Spy with on the trip to D.C.

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY Learn about the many functions and operating procedures of the Austin Police Department. The next session starts *Feb. 10* and meets on *Tuesdays, 6:45-9:30pm*. For more information or an application, visit the APD website, **www.cityofaustin.org/police**, or read "My Semester on the Beat," News, Dec. 1, 2006, for *Chronicle* Associate News Editor Nora Ankrum's experience with the program. *854-4989.* **vincente.galloway@co.travis.tx.us**.

SOULFUL COOK-OFF REGISTRATION As the first Austin Black Expo approaches (*Jan. 31*), it's time to enter yourself into the soul-food cook-off. Go to **www.austinblackexpo.com**, and download an entry form for a complete list of rules and regulations. *$75.*

Spiritual Wisdom

•Mastering Change in Your Life Jan. 3
•Health and Healing Jan. 10
•Finding Divine Love in Daily Life Jan. 17
•Conquering Fear Jan. 24
•Relationships Jan. 31

Free Workshops: Saturdays 2:00-3:30pm

ECKANKAR Center of Austin
223 W. Anderson Lane, Suite B-206
453-0331 • www.eckankar-texas.org

Hwy 183 Access Road at Northcrest, between Lamar and IH-35, behind the Red Lobster. Call for Directions.

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU
Enjoy all the Benefits of Yoga in 2009!

Reduce Stress • Lift Spirit • Build Strength

Enroll in our Monthly Unlimited Program
Access over 400 classes, 5-locations
and a flexible class schedule.



Sign up by January 31st and
receive a FREE hoodie
www.yogayoga.com/newyear

YOGA YOGA

*gay*place's TOP 10 Queer Doin's 2008

BY ASH BELL, ANDY CAMPBELL, KATE GETTY, KATE X MESSER, AND DACIA SAENZ

THE YEAR OF HOPE AND IMPACT

1) Top Momentum Little did **Amy Balliet** know how viral her Web-based **Join the Impact** would become. It began as a simple blog post and e-mail missive to inspire friends after the passage of Proposition 8 and similarly anti-gay propositions in four states. On Friday, Nov. 7, a website launched to galvanize folks across the country. Five hours later, the site logged 10,000 visitors. By the following Monday morning, nearly 1 million people had visited the site, and a plan had emerged: one huge synchronized protest for Saturday, Nov. 15, 10:30am PST. The result? More than 1 million protesters in every state and beyond rose to bear witness to the creation of a freshly energized queer rights movement.

2) Top Local Momentum Early on in 2008, lecturer at the University of Texas **Uri Horesh** went on a hunger strike until UT would honor domestic-partner benefits for its sizable queer work force. Although Horesh ended his strike and moved on to greener pastures, he helped motivate students, faculty, and administration to be more proactive in their demand for equal treatment. Just last month, a rally was held at UT, bringing together key administration members and lovable state Rep. **Elliott Naishtat**. A petition has been started and carries thousands of signatures.



PROP. 8 PROTEST

KATE X MESSER

3) Top Theatre of Eight When public records revealed exactly who donated money to the hateful **Prop. 8**, California Musical Theatre patrons and volunteers alike were shocked to discover the name of their own theatre director on the list. News traveled about his $1,000 Prop. 8 check, and bans and boycotts from an outpouring of queers (In the theatre? No way!) arose, forcing him to resign. On a brighter foot-lit note, ***Hairspray*** honcho **Marc Shaiman**'s "**Prop 8 – The Musical**" gathered the star-studded cast of Jack Black, John C. Reilly, Margaret Cho, and many more to hit the hate where it hurt: right in the funny bone.

4) Top Tranny Diva This year witnessed the birth of a new Austin singing sensation, **Christeene Lyon**. The brainchild of **Paul Soileau**, aka **Rebecca Havemeyer**, Christeene's performance-style falls into the category of drag performance dubbed by queer theorist José Esteban-Muñoz as "terrorist drag." See Christeene in person or on YouTube; we guarantee you will leave a changed gay. *Scan-duh-luss.*

5) Top Gay Icons: Redeemed, Ridiculous, & Sublime While **Britney Spears** shocked most of us not with a head shave or a baby dangle but with her fierce comeback, a little womanizin' circus called ***Circus*** released just this past month, **Clay Aiken** shocked no one when he came out on the cover of ***People*** in September. When asked what finally cracked that closet door, the ***Idol*** diva asserted, "I cannot raise a child to lie or to hide things." *Touché.* **MSNBC** delivered the queer community it's shiniest prize of 2008: The first out-lesbian Rhodes scholar and first out-lesbian MSN news anchor and A-1 smarty pants **Rachel Maddow** has her own show. She's bringing brainiac back.

6) Top Hope for Queer Cinema We've said it once, and we'll say it again, this year's **Austin Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival** was a thrill. The festival showcased a variety of domestic and international films that pushed the boundaries of traditionally programmed films (gay white twink fests!), from the Taiwanese lesbian gender-bender drama ***Drifting Flowers*** to the zombie-marxist-art-porn ***Otto; or Up With Dead People*** by butt-boy **Bruce La Bruce**. Although some key staffers said adieu this year, we're confident that aGLIFF will continue to rise to film festival prominence, both here at home and abroad.



"PROP 8 – THE MUSICAL"

7) Top Dance Crew Were we unicorns, planning our sweethearts' surprise birthday extravaganza, **Little Stolen Moments** would be tops on our list to entertain all our little uni and pony friends. Lindsey, Nicole, Angie, and Stanley Roy sprinkled sweet synchronized moves to the theme songs of *The Cosby Show* and *Knight Rider,* trounced trampolines in rhythm, and stole our hearts.

8) Top Pop Instant female-to-male celeb Thomas Beatie fascinated the entire straight world (and possibly a few in the gay one, as well) when he announced his pregnancy in the ***Advocate*** in March. Oprah, Ba-ba … Thomas covered our TVs for a few months. Just when we thought his 15 minutes were up, he announced he was pregnant again on Barbara Walters' ***Most Fascinating People of 2008***. Of course.

9) Top Two-Step Step Up Sure, queers have always had a place to two-step. This is Texas, ain't it? But there's just something about **Rusty Spurs**. Maybe it's the peanuts. Or the outfits. Or the serious cowboys, serious about dancing country. Maybe it's just the "sweetie" these real-cowboy-jean-and-wallet-wearing bartenders tack on to every order of a Lone Star, here in the heart of the Lone Star State.

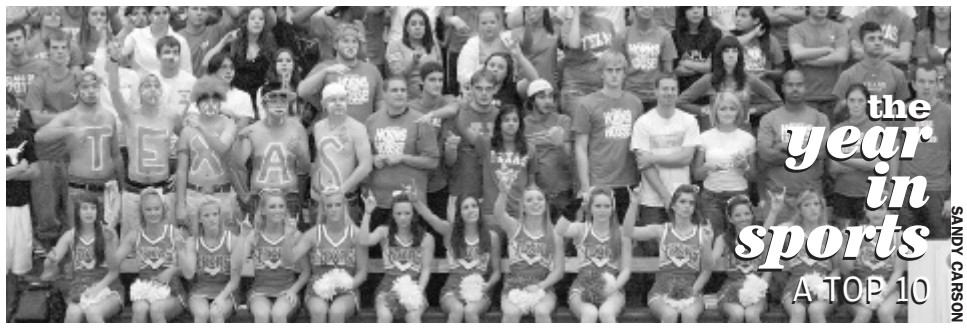
10) Top Hope We like to call **Tuesday, Nov. 4**, the **Best Gay Street Dancing of 2008**. We all breathed a collective sigh of relief the day hope kicked ass and sent panicked visions of President Palin packin'. Filled with revelry and drunk with power (and before the news of Prop. 8 sank in), the people transformed the streets into a big ol' gay bar – complete with strangers dancing, hugging, and making out for democracy. Now, we just have to focus this delirious **Obama**-rama into action, keep his change-agent feet to the fire, and finally take our rightful place at the table. Change? Let's start with **dignity**.

sports

BY MARK FAGAN

listings

Got a sporting event you'd like to see listed in *The Austin Chronicle*? Submit your sporty happening online at **austinchronicle.com/commform**.



SANDY CARSON

BY MARK FAGAN

Austin is a sports town. Whether participating or spectating, we take our sports seriously. Some of Austin's most-heralded celebrities are either athletes (**Lance Armstrong**) or dedicated fans (**Matthew McConaughey**, **Richard Linklater**) with UT being a veritable training ground for first-round draft picks (**Kevin Durant**, **Vince Young**, **D.J. Augustin**, and **Cedric Benson**, to name a few). It was an exceptional year for local sports – the excellence of almost every UT sports program, the Toros' championship run, the ascension of the Aztex – that was tempered by some less-welcome news (the loss of the Ice Bats and Wranglers and the death of **Rooster Andrews**). Here are a few of the many notable events from the past year in CenTex sports.

1) While Austin doesn't boast an NFL, MLB, or NBA team, we have more than our share of minor league franchises. There's the ongoing success of the **Round Rock Express**, the **Austin Outlaws** women's football team, the impressive first year of the **Austin Aztex** (see "Soccer Watch," right, for more), and the recent announcement of Austin's newest sports team, the indoor-football-playing **Austin Turfcats**. To top it off, construction has begun on the fancy-pants **Cedar Park Center**, which will house Dallas Stars affiliate the **Texas Stars**, who begin play in the American Hockey League in 2009.

2) Which brings us to the bad news, the loss of the **Austin Wranglers** and the **Austin Ice Bats**. The Wranglers never seemed to grab a foothold playing in the cavernous Erwin Center, while the Ice Bats fan base didn't follow them to the rinky-dink Chaparral Ice Center. The Ice Bats continue to consider their options for the 2009-10 season.

3) The 16-0 **Lake Travis Cavaliers** won their second straight 4A high school state football championship, pushing their overall winning streak to 30 games! The Cavs' stud quarterback, **Garrett Gilbert** (who holds the state high school career passing record with 12,534 yards), has committed to play for UT next season.

4) Texas fans feel they got punked by the criminally bad **Bowl Championship Series** selection system, losing out on a chance to play for the National Championship to the Oklahoma Sooners, who they beat head-to-head earlier in the season. Once **Barack Obama** has ended the war in Iraq and turned around our flailing economy, maybe he can get college football to set up a playoff system fer chrissakes.

5) A record-setting 23 athletes and five coaches made the trek to Beijing to represent the University of Texas in the **2008 Olympics**. Current and former Longhorns brought home 10 gold, two silver, and two bronze medals, with swimmers **Aaron Piersol** and **Garrett Weber-Gale** sporting two golds each.

6) **Hurricane Ike** hit Texas hard, and all aspects of life were affected, including sports. Parts of the Houston Texans' stadium's roof were ripped off, forcing them to change their home schedule and bye week; the Houston Astros had to move a "home" series with playoff implications vs. the Chicago Cubs to Milwaukee; and the Longhorns rescheduled their home game vs. Arkansas.

7) The **Austin Toros** advanced to the National Basketball Development League championship, losing to the Idaho Stampede in a hotly contested three-game series. **Tony Parker** and **Eva Longoria Parker** lent their support to the Spurs' NBDL affiliate, catching a game at the Austin Convention Center last season.

8) ESPN brought its *Friday Night Fights* program to the Music Hall Sept. 5, as Austin's own pugilist, **James Kirkland**, showed a national audience what all the buzz was about, knocking out opponent Ricardo Cortes in the second round.

9) **Richard Linklater**'s *Inning by Inning: A Portrait of a Coach* debuted on ESPN in June, honoring the winningest coach in NCAA baseball history, UT's own **Augie Garrido**.

10) The formation of the **Alternative Softball League**. *The Austin Chronicle* took home the championship trophy in the inaugural season with the ASL looking to expand from five to eight teams in '09. BookPeople, KOOP Radio, Emo's, and Waterloo Records rounded out the first-year teams.

THE HOME TEAMS

LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS 2009 season opener! The TXRD all-star **All-Scar Army** faces the 2008 Calvello Cup Champions, the **Holy Rollers**, in what is sure to be a memorable bout. *Sun., Jan. 4, 7pm. Austin Convention Center, Hall 5, 500 E. Cesar Chavez. $15 (door), $13 (presale).* **www.txrd.com**.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Men's Basketball Vs. Appalachian State: *Fri., Jan. 2, 8pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Lamar: *Sat., Jan. 3, 2pm. Erwin Center.* **www.texassports.com**.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Dallas Baptist University: *Mon., Jan. 5, 8pm.* **Women's Basketball** Texas Lutheran: *Sat., Jan. 3, 2pm.* **www.stedwards.edu/athletics**.

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball Vs. Bacone College: *Thu., Jan. 8, 5:30pm. 300 E. Huntland Dr.* **Men's Basketball** Vs. Bacone College: *Thu., Jan. 8, 7pm. 300 E. Huntland Dr.*

TEXAS STATE Men's Basketball Vs. Schreiner: *Sat., Jan. 3, 4pm.* Vs. Northern Colorado: *Tue., Jan. 6, 7pm. Strahan Coliseum, San Marcos.* **txstatebobcats.cstv.com**.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Hendrix: *Fri., Jan. 2, 6pm.* Vs. Millsaps: *Sun., Jan. 4, 1pm.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Hendrix: *Fri., Jan. 2, 8pm.* Vs. Millsaps: *Sun., Jan. 4, 3pm.* **southwesternpirates.cstv.com**.

RECREATION & FITNESS

WEST AUSTIN YOUTH ASSOCIATION is now holding registration for its Winter Soccer Skills Academy (deadline *Jan. 9*) and Lacrosse Skills and Drills clinic. See **www.waya.org** for details and to register.

FITNESS BOOT CAMPS Sign up now (all you new year's resolutioners) for this 30-day camp focusing on cross-training, muscle toning, and full-body conditioning. New camp every month. *Mon.-Fri., mornings and evenings. Butler Park, 1110 Barton Springs Rd.; Summit Elementary, 12207 Cassady Dr., 826-3977. $15.* **www.outrightfitness.com**.

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN FITNESS CIRCLE is a new exercise group that meets every other Saturday to walk laps at Highland Mall. Open to men and women; please bring some water, and wear comfortable shoes. Meet at the food court. *Sat., Dec. 6, 9am. 6001 Airport. Free.* **austincircles@ymail.com**.

CAMP VIE is a four-week total body conditioning program that includes fitness instruction, nutritional education, team motivation, and training by healthcare professionals. Participate two or three days a week, or pay for individual sessions. *Mon.-Thu., Jan. 5-29, 12:30pm. Brushy Creek Lake Park, Cedar Park, 512/258-8880, 504/251-1128.* **docm@motchiro.com**.

FIRST SATURDAY AT HARVEY PENICK GOLF COURSE "Try before you buy" new and used equipment. Also putting and closest-to-the-pin contests and free 30-minute golf lessons. *Sat., Jan. 3, 8am. Penick Golf Campus, 5501 Ed Bluestein, 926-1100.*

ACC SPRING GOLF CLASSES No experience or equipment necessary, and the classes are self-paced. *$82 for about 18 hours of instruction.* **scottaj1@juno.com**, **www3.austincc.edu/schedule/wcell/cepfr.htm**.

MUAY THAI KICKBOXING Muay Thai translates to "the art of the eight weapons." Classes focus on conditioning, instruction, and skill development. They are coed, safe, and should be a lot of fun. Starter classes: *Mon.-Thu. and Sat. mornings, Jan. 5-24. Premier Martial Arts, 3601 W. William Cannon #50, 447-5425. Free trial class.* **www.pmaaustin.com**.

AUSTIN JUNIOR OLYMPIC ARCHERY Target archery class for kids 8-18. Fee includes nine weeks of two-hour sessions, awards, T-shirt, stretch tubing for practicing at home, and more. All equipment provided. *Sundays, 4-6pm, Jan. 4-March 8. $158. 10203 Old Manchaca Rd., 436-8813.* **www.aajoad.com**.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

RESOLUTION RUN 2009 What to do after a New Year's Eve spent partying? How about running a 5K? Doughnuts and coffee will be offered before the race and black-eyed peas, bananas, oranges, water, coffee, and hot chocolate at the end. Awards to winners in all age groups and T-shirts guaranteed for early registrants. Wheelchair participants, parents with strollers, and leashed dogs are welcome. Proceeds benefit the **St. Philip's Missions Fund** and the **Round Rock Senior Center**. *Thu., Jan. 1, 11am. 16321 Great Oaks Dr., Round Rock.* **www.resolutionrun2009.com**.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 16 issue is Monday, Jan. 5**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the appropriate writer (see below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

Mark Fagan (Sports): **gameplans@austinchronicle.com**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor, at **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

soccer watch

BY NICK BARBARO

1) Austin Aztex a winner: This one's easy: a great organization and a great first season. The United Soccer League First Division future starts in early April.
2) Stoke City promoted: Just 12 hours after the Aztex played their first game, their sister club earned promotion to the English Premier League for the first time ever. Huge.
3) Horns fall short: The best senior class in UT's history played brilliantly at times but finished midtable in the Big 12 and out of the NCAA relatively early.
4) St. Edward's shut out of NCAA: Both men and women were snubbed for postseason play, despite high rankings and records of 13-4-2 and 13-3-1, respectively.
5) U.S. Women win the Olympics, and everything else in sight, under new coach Pia Sundhage, ending the year a best-ever 33-1-2. Add an Under-20 World Cup title plus a new Women's Professional Soccer league, and things are definitely looking rosy for women's soccer.
6) Spain wins Euro 2008 title: After 44 years without a major trophy, Spain was the clear class of the quadrennial tournament.
7) English clubs dominate Europe: For the second year in a row, England supplied three of the four Champions League semifinalists; Manchester United won it, plus the FIFA Club World Cup.
8) USL-1 outperforms Major League Soccer: Montreal and Puerto Rico have had unexpected success in the inaugural CONCACAF Champions League – another auspicious sign for the USL-1 Aztex.
9) Crew ends Dynamo run: Columbus had the best regular season in the MLS, then won the MLS Cup in convincing fashion.
10) Argentine men win Olympics: Sweeter yet, they trounced Brazil, 3-0, in the semifinal.

arts listings



12 Steps to a More Dysfunctional Christmas

The Vortex, through Jan. 3
Running time: 1 hr, 30 min

Mildred hasn't had an enjoyable Christmas in 45 years, and the newly divorced Texarkanan is determined to make 1993's December one to remember.

For that to happen, however, Mildred must leave her longstanding home (for Houston!), put two loved ones in the ground, be reunited with her gay son, take custody of her grandchildren, appear on multiple talk shows, and visit a gay bar. If that's not *12 Steps to a More Dysfunctional Christmas*, well, it's at least six.

12 Steps is Rob Nash's one-man Christmas show at the Vortex, which is being revived 15 years after its original production. It tells the tale of a family trying to have a happy holiday despite inner strife and adversity. Mildred is the unassuming matriarch, who is about to leave all she's known in Texarkana when she receives a call from her estranged son, Fred. After three years away, during which he's contracted AIDS, Fred's ready for some of his mother's unconditional love. The love might not be flowing as freely between Fred and his brother's family, consisting as it does of conservative parents, angsty children, and a New Age lesbian aunt named Windsong.

No wonder this family's brimming with alcoholics: Everyone from homely 11-year-old Ashley to on-her-own Mildred has some palpable problem. It reminded me of visiting my mother's family last Christmas, a gathering so fraught with ill will and tension that I was shocked only my bordering-on-alcoholic uncle and I were drinking. If you've ever had the desire to down your eggnog 'n' bourbon in one gulp, then you can probably relate to the family feuding *12 Steps* presents.

Nash's Christmas narrative has no shortage of drama, with multiple deaths and soap-opera-esque turns in its compact 90 minutes. But *12 Steps* does not descend into melodrama. First off, Nash is a very funny guy, and each of his characters plays into the stereotypes he or she was born from: Holistic Windsong needs to listen to "the Goddess" at all times; teenager Matt is a defensive mess of crotch-grabbing and curse words. And despite the humorous digs, *12 Steps* treats its characters with enough respect to give each his or her own sweet, redemptive side.

Nash also proves to be quite a versatile and precise actor: Each character is clearly identifiable by vocal inflections, posture, or the way Nash wears his flannel shirt (an early Nineties staple). As a play from '93, the storylines and meaning of *12 Steps* hold up quite well, and the specific anachronisms are cute, certainly not distracting. There is a Ross Perot joke, for example, and references to "it" bands R.E.M. and U2.

I have a tendency to avoid holiday-themed theatre due to its saccharine nature, but I was won over by Nash's ability and willingness to show the fault lines between families and our attempts to patch them up in a way that is never cheesy. *12 Steps* is sweet, honest, funny, and – for anyone who's struggled to hold his or her tongue at a holiday gathering – a welcome relief. *– Avimaan Syam*

theatre

OPENING

SPACEMAN: DADA: ROBOT The Electronic Planet Ensemble presents this multimedia environment of sight, sound, and words to celebrate the meaning of the universe and all of the creatures in it. Local creatures Sergio Samayoa, David Jewell, Chad Salvata, Rachel Fuhrer, and Jo Beth Henderson will entertain and inform you with tales of existential robots, star whales, and what sort of cosmic complications ensue when Spaceman goes looking for his Starwoman. Bonus: Space-themed mail-art exhibition in the lobby. *Thu.-Sun., Jan. 9-24, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-30 (two-for-one tickets on Thursday and Sunday, with two nonperishable food items for SafePlace).* **www.vortexrep.org**.

MISS WITHERSPOON Christopher Durang's acclaimed and sort of *Groundhog Day*-like comedy, about a woman who is reincarnated over and over "until she gets it right," is directed by Karen Jambon for Different Stages and features Jennifer Underwood (*The Casket of Passing Fancy*'s Duchess) in the title role. *Jan. 9-Feb. 2. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 474-8497. $15-30.* **www.main.org/diffstages**.

CLOSING

ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS PARTY Zach's annual Motown-inflected hullabaloo, replete with the Santa-suit-bedecked babes of beehives and bodacious belting power, returns with more than a dozen new songs for your ho-ho-holiday cheer. Rebecca Schoolar, Judy Arnold, and Andra Mitrovich star with Cedric Neal, the man who played Sportin' Life in Zach's production of *Porgy and Bess*. *Through Jan. 4. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. $38-45.* **www.zachscott.com**.

12 STEPS TO A MORE DYSFUNCTIONAL CHRISTMAS "Set your watches back to 1993, and enjoy the New-Age Recovery Industrial Complex's favorite family, the Smiths!" That's three whole generations of Smiths, in fact, and all of them deftly embodied by the seemingly multiple-personalitied **Rob Nash** (who wrote the show, too, of course). Funny as hell and as heartwarming as it is snarky, this one-man spectacle is an excellent alt-theatre treat for your happiest holidays. (See review, left.) *Through Jan. 3. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-30.* **www.myspace.com/therobnash**.

ONGOING

THE LAST FIVE YEARS The two sides of a romantic relationship at its end are revealed in this Jason Robert Brown play, directed by Michael McKelvey for Austin Playhouse and Penfold Theatre, featuring David Gallagher and Anikka Johannson as the paralaxed lovers. *Through Jan. 18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. $20 ($15, students).* **www.austinplayhouse.com**.

THE SANTALAND DIARIES David Sedaris' ascerbic Christmas memories get some excellent rejuvenation in the form of new elf-star Espie Randolph (who so delightfully galvanized the Zach stage in *Shear Madness* a couple of years back), with director Dave Steakley answering the knock of color-specific opportunity by adding new material, including the Christmas story "Six to Eight Black Men," to the holiday mix. There's also musical enhancement by Meredith McCall and Jason Connor. *Through Jan. 11. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. $33-43.* **www.zachscott.com**.

AUDITIONS

THE HEIDI CHRONICLES Wendy Wasserstein's award-winning play will be directed by Susie Gidseg for City Theatre. They're looking for men and women to perform in March and April. Call or e-mail (**info@citytheatreaustin.org**) for appointment. *Jan. 3. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 524-2870.* **www.citytheatreaustin.org**.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 16 issue is Monday, Jan. 5**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. **www.capcitycomedy.com**.

Cap City Open Mic Hey, it could be *you* up there slaying your friends and neighbors as they've slain you. *Sundays, 8pm. Free with college ID.*

John Evans It pays to be frugal these days, which is why a thrift-store maven and consummate laff-meister like Evans is just the man to cheer you up as the economy goes down, down, down. And **Martha Kelly** opens. *Through Jan. 3. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm*.

Andi Smith This touring comedian has a wicked (and wicked funny) mind working the mouth in that pretty face of hers – all of which are sufficient reasons to catch her act. Oh, and one more reason: The almost equally pretty **Lucas Molandes** opens. *Jan. 6-10. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm*.

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 524-2807. **www.coldtownetheater.com**.

New Year's Day Night Your first box of chuckles for the new year? Why, it's **Midnight Society** presenting a sweet parcel of sketch comedy as only they (and their talented friends) can. And it's f-r-e-e. *Thu., Jan. 1, 8pm*. **UpTowne** is more sketch comedy, with the stars and stalwarts of ColdTowne doing their best to make your New Year's Day's night a memorable one. *Thu., Jan. 1, 10pm. Also free. $10.*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. **www.esthersfollies.com**.

Esther's Follies The most popular troupe in town says, "Yes, we can ... entertain the hell out of you!" with its riotous musical comedy and sketches, now with the **Unleaded Supremes** singing "The Big Three Bailout," guest comedian **Derek Reid as Barack Obama** with some special words for our beleaguered nation, and **a new illusion** (it's called "Wet!") from master magician **Ray Anderson**. Thrills! Chills! Ripped-from-the-headlines events turned into comedy gold! *Reservations highly recommended. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 8 & 10pm. $20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional $5 for special reserved seats.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. **www.hideouttheatre.com**.

Friday: It's **Threefer Madness** time, in which three different troupes, drawn from the best in town, battle for improv supremacy. *8pm. $10*. Next comes the eminently topical **This Week Tonight** show, working its wild improv off the news (of the weird, of the wonderful, of the just plain newsworthy) of the past seven days. Holy current events, anchorman! *10pm. $10*.

Saturday: After School Improv Here's some fresh improv based on audience suggestions and *performed in the style of those old-school teenage cautionary tales*. Marijuana! Gangs! Sexual predators! Oh noes! *8pm. $10*. **Maestro** is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by *you*, the audience. *Highly recommended. 10pm. $10*.

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. **www.thevelveetaroom.com**.

Open Mic Night These are your would-be comedic neighbors, three minutes at a time: Love them; fear them. This week's host: **Bob Khosravi**. *Thursdays, 10pm*.

Blue New Year Why not start 2009 off by watching a motley group of yuksters follow its baser instincts onstage? This weekend **Norman Wilkerson**, **Howard Beecher**, **John Tole**, **Mike Dunlop**, and **Ruby Collins** plumb the depths of their depravity for your prurient titillation. Heh, "titillation." *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 2-3, 9:30 & 11:30pm. $5.*

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy.
brenner@austinchronicle.com.

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical.
dance-classical@austinchronicle.com.

Ric Williams, litera. **litera@austinchronicle.com**.

Benné Rockett, visual arts. **art@austinchronicle.com**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor.
brenner@austinchronicle.com.

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK features the best comics in Austin, so they suggest – right there in the Hole, on the Drag, in the heart of collegiate Texas. *Tuesdays, 10pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe. $5.* **www.myspace.com/austincomedytrainwreck**.

KICK BUTT COMEDY ComedySportz Reunion Shows Les McGehee and his coterie of seasoned comedy cutups return to the stage with this series of tomfoolery. *Lesfoolery*, actually. *Saturdays, 6pm*. **Monday Night Mash: Improv** *Mondays, 8pm*. **Open Mic Comedy** *Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425*.

LAST GAS COMEDY Stand-up comedy every Saturday. *Sat., Jan. 3, 9pm. Homer's Bar & Grill, 1779 Wells Branch Pkwy. #114. Free.* **www.lastgascomedy.com**.

dance

CALL FOR CHOREOGRAPHERS: BIG RANGE AUSTIN DANCE FESTIVAL Big Range Austin is a dance festival that presents contemporary dance exploring diverse concepts within the movement arts, encouraging experimentation, collaboration, and performance excellence in a fun and challenging environment for artists and audiences. Festival dates are *June 5-14* at Ballet Austin's AustinVentures StudioTheater. See the website for details and applications. Deadline: *Jan. 31*. **www.spankdance.com**.

TWO LEFT FEET

ARIEL DANCE THEATRE: NEW MODERN CLASSES Andrea Ariel teaches modern dance to students of all levels. Please call for more information. *Thursdays, 6:30-8:30pm. Khabele Studio, 701 W. Seventh, 458-4258. $12 drop-in/$10 class card.*

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Each night features a variety of ballroom and Latin dances; each month sees the start of a new course. No partner necessary. *Sundays, 6-8pm. Dancers Workshop, 183 & Balcones Woods. Weeknights, times vary. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd., 32-DANCE. Fees vary.* **www.dancein.org**.

AUSTIN BODYCHOIR: FREESTYLE DANCE *Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 7:45pm; Sundays, 10am. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar.* **www.bodychoir.org**.

EGYPTIAN BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH DRAKON Beginners to advanced dancers are invited to learn from one of Austin's favorite belly dancers. *Various locations, 295-2036, 750-7037. $15 per class or six for $75.* **www.desertpassion.com**.

BELLY DANCE WITH FINGER CYMBALS Stacey Lizette teaches all levels of dancers, using different cymbal rhythms with a focus on fluidity of hand and arm movements. (Finger cymbals are available for purchase or loan.) *Mondays, 7:30-8:30pm. Tapestry Dance Company, 2302 Western Trails*. **www.staceylizette.net**.

SCOTTISH BALLROOM DANCING Learn the ballroom dances of Scotland: lively jigs and reels and elegant strathspeys. No partner needed, but couples welcome. *Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. Quicksilver Dance Center, 8711 Burnet Rd. Ste. H-100, 327-2869. First class free.*

DANCE ASSOCIATES AND AUSTIN PARD: DANCE CLASSES Kids (ages 24 months and older) can participate in dance, gymnastics, and movement classes all over town, courtesy of Dance Associates and the city's Parks & Recreation Department. See the website for details. *323-6838.* **www.danceassociatesaustin.com**.

TAPESTRY DANCE COMPANY ACADEMY: POLLY MOTLEY Guest choreographer Motley leads a pair of workshops: one for finding new movement and experimenting with your own personal style, the other for "mature art makers" of all disciplines that focuses on performance. Check the website for details. *Tapestry Dance Company, 2302 Western Trails, 474-9864.* **www.tapestry.org**.

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH TWYLA GRACE Twyla of Twyla & the Twilight Star Ensemble teaches ongoing classes in belly dance. Call for details. *Mon. & Wed., 8:30-9:30pm, 12687 Research at Oak Knoll, 971-0188.* **www.twylabellydance.com**.

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ'd music weekly, year-round. *Saturdays, 7:30-11pm. Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research, 989-3939.* **www.austinballroomdancers.org**.

THE DANCE ZONE: ADULT DANCE & FITNESS CLASSES Unique twists on standard favorites: Ballet NEXT, L.A. Street Jazz, Cardio Jamz, Cardio Strip-Hop, and more. See the website for details. *The Dance Zone, 2323 San Antonio. 236-9328.* **www.inthedancezone.com**.

LUCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS: CLASSES FORMING Belly dancing (all levels), flamenco, salsa/merengue, hip-hop, creative movement for ages 5-10, and tai chi. *Lucila Dance Studio, 1700 S. Lamar, 416-8800.* **www.luciladance.com**.

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. $5.*

FIRST FRIDAY CONTRA DANCING Easy and fun, contra dancing will put you in the swing of things. Live music by the Runaway Bridegrooms; who's calling the dance is still a mystery. *Beginners' lessons: Fri., Jan. 2, 7:30pm; main dance: 8-11pm. Carpenter's Hall, 400 Josephine. 970-4919. $8 (discount for AFTM members and first-timers).*

MODERN DANCE CLASSES Ellen Bartel of Spank Dance Company leads a series of classes in modern dance (all levels). Times and prices vary. See the website for details. *Tapestry Dance Company studios, 2302 Western Trails*. **www.tapestry.org**.

ARGENTINE TANGO CLASSES Laura Pellegrino, back from the holidays in Argentina, offers classes in her country's sexy dance of record. *Khabele Studio, 701 W. Seventh. $150.* **www.tangointexas.com**.

FLAMENCO CLASSES Intermediate classes at the Khabele Studio Downtown. Call Chloe for details. *923-3270.*

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Flamenco dance classes, centrally located. *Saturdays, noon-1pm (beginner), 1-2:30pm (intermediate). 2801 W. 45th, 382-1366. Fees vary.* **www.estudioflamenco.com**.

SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Turning and improvised couple dancing for beginning to advanced dancers. No partners needed; wear slick-soled shoes. *Thursdays, 7:30-9:45pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598. $3.* **www.austinscandi.org**.

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE Traditional social dances to live music every week. You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. $3 donation.* **www.cityofaustin.org/parks/hancock.htm**.

NIA CLASSES The Nia technique is an energizing workout inspired by dance, martial arts, and healing arts. First class is free. *Mon. & Fri., 9:30-10:30am; Mon. & Thu., 6-7pm; Sat., 10:30am. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 922-1581. $10 each class.* **www.cityofaustin.org/parks/hancock.htm**.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Learn a variety of couples and line dances from around the world. All levels of experience welcome. No partner required. *Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons); 8:15-11pm (open dance). Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. $5.* **www.aifd.cc**.

KICK BUTT BLUES DANCE Ass-kickin' blues for you to shake your booty to! Food and beverages available. *Fridays (except third Friday each month), 9pm-1am. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 736-2662. $5.* **www.kickbuttcoffee.com**.

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Ongoing classes for various levels of expertise in swing and Lindy Hop culminate in a weekly dance. New classes usually start the first Tuesday of the new month. *Tuesdays, 7pm (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary.* **www.fouronthefloor.com**.

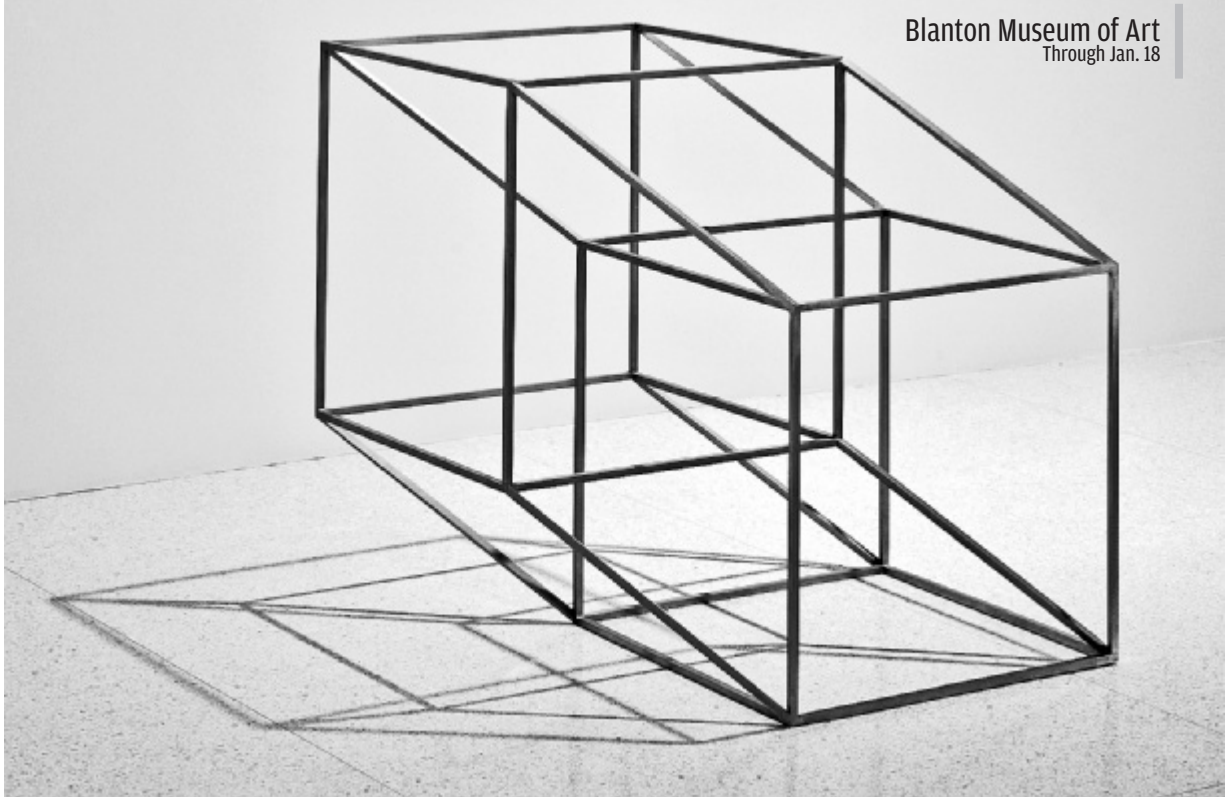
AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. $5 ($2, members).* **www.austinswingsyndicate.org**.





‘Reimagining Space: The Park Place Gallery Group in 1960s New York’

Blanton Museum of Art
Through Jan. 18



“Take the ‘A’ Train” was sound advice when Billy Strayhorn penned his jazz hit for Duke Ellington, and believe it or not, it proves apt for the Blanton Museum’s fond look back at the Sixties artists’ cooperative based in New York’s Park Place Gallery. *The “A” Train* here is not the quickest way to Harlem, as in Strayhorn’s lyric, but Mark di Suvero’s wood and steel sculpture (which was inspired by the song) may be the quickest way inside the mind-expanding mindset of this pleasurably trippy exhibition.

In the upper half of di Suvero’s work, a three-step section of a wooden stairway is suspended in midair at an impossible angle for walking on. But something in the way it hangs there encourages you to envision that bit of stairway extending in both directions, with someone climbing it in defiance of all laws of physics, like the faceless amblers in those Escher landscapes, ascending and descending stairs that cut across space at unnatural inclines. And as you picture that, your preconceptions of how space *should* work drop away, and you’re slip-sliding into another dimension, where new possibilities of what space is or can be are wide open.

The five sculptors and five painters who made up the Park Place Gallery cooperative all shared an interest in this kind of dimensional exploration, and in their brief time together – mostly concentrated in a five-year span – they sought to crack open those old doors of perception via abstract paintings and sculptures. With geometric forms and juxtapositions of color, they played with ways to push and pull the eye through the space in or around an artwork, thus nudging the brain to reinterpret the information firing into it from the visual receptacles. They made two-dimensional surfaces look three-dimensional, as in Dean Fleming’s large three-panel painting *2VDwan2*, with its white rectangle pinned among blocks of black, blue, and red appearing as the lighted side of a cube projecting from the canvas or even an open passageway into it. They made a single line turn on itself to establish form and volume, as in Forrest Myers’ *Lazers Daze*, where one shiny aluminum beam constructs a cube through a Möbius strip-like contortion. You look at these works and look again, trying to wrap your brain around the shifting forms and how the devil they do that, and the result is a distinctly pleasant tickle in your frontal lobe.

What makes the exhibit more than just a nostalgic revisitation of op art, however, is the context provided by curator Linda Dalrymple Henderson of the UT Department of Art and Art History. In panels of text posted around the gallery, she highlights the Park Place Gallery artists’ fascination with science and science fiction, presenting them as major sources of inspiration for the art. The juxtaposition of the artwork with those references to Einstein’s theory of relativity and Buckminster Fuller’s geodesic domes works almost like the blocks of unusual hues abutting one another, opening up a new way of looking at these works. In this light, the geometric precision and careful calibration of color seem like the experiments of scientists on the verge of some monumental discovery. At the same time American scientists were working feverishly to rocket men beyond Earth’s atmosphere, the Park Place Gallery artists were engaged in their own space race. Indeed, the presence of Peter Forakis’ *JFK Chair* – a curved piece of aluminum with a section sliced out and pulled up, suggesting both the tall back of a chair and a rocket pointed skyward – adds to the New Frontier vibe. We leave with a sense of this work not being generated as art for art’s sake but as part of a culture that was experimenting and exploring on all fronts, for whom space was another realm to be conquered. – *Robert Faires*

classical music

OPENING

LA FOLLIA AUSTIN BAROQUE: FAVORITE BAROQUE CONCERTOS Concertos by Bach, Vivaldi, and Telemann fill the bill, including the timely “Winter” from Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons*. An expanded string ensemble performs with La Follia soloists Boel Gidholm, baroque violin; Marcus McGuff, baroque flute; Scott Horton, lute; and Keith Womer, harpsichord. *Sat., Jan. 3, 8pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 879-6404. $18 ($15, seniors; $5, students).* **www.lafollia.org**.

NOTES & ENCORES

AUSTIN YOUTH ORCHESTRA: STRING AUDITIONS AYO seeks to fill strings spots in each of its five performing orchestras. Membership is open to orchestra students in grades K-12 from public, private, charter, and home-schools who are members in good standing of their respective school orchestras. Students should prepare a solo piece or étude of their choice. Scales and sight-reading may also be required. There is a $100 fee per semester for tuition. See the website for details. *Mon., Jan. 12, 6pm (registration); 6:30pm (auditions). Austin High School, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez. 463-9595.* **www.austinyouthorchestra.com**.

visual arts

EVENTS

CO-LAB: SARA WELCH The artist tackles the importance of labor, sacrifice, and submission within relationships through sculptural text and carpet installation. *Sun., Jan. 4, 7-11pm. 613 Allen, 300-8217.* **www.colabspace.org**.

OPENING

BROCCA GALLERY New paintings by Augusto Brocca and sculpture from award-winning sculptor Gary Yarrington. *Jan. 4-Feb. 2. 1103 E. Sixth, 628-1306.* **www.broccagallery.com**.

CLOSING

UMLAUF SCULPTURE GARDEN: BEN WOITENA This exhibition covers 45 years of work by the noted Houston sculptor who studied with sculptor Charles Umlauf at UT. *Through Jan. 4. 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582.* **www.umlaufsculpture.org**.

1305 POSITION GALLERY: CONSEQUENCE This holographic installation by multimedia artist Sally Weber is the inaugural event for the new Eastside gallery. *Through Jan. 3. 305 E. Sixth, 495-9578.* **www.1305position.com**.

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577.* **www.eyecontactart.com**.

SUPER ALRIGHT: WAY DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS This is the nationally touring exhibition for the third anniversary of the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, featuring original artwork by artists from the Big Easy and beyond, here invigorated by fine pieces by five Austin locals. Recommended. *Through Jan. 10. 301 Chicon, 524-1841.* **www.superalright.com**.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: DARK AND LEAFLESS New York-based painter Benjamin Butler presents new paintings that reflect his continued interest in combining varying modes of 20th century abstraction with those of the decorative arts, folk art, and “Sunday” painting. *Through Jan. 10. 360 Nueces Ste. C.* **www.lorareynolds.com**.

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. *1219 W. Sixth*.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix, 385-3591.* **www.serieproject.org**.

STUDIO C GALLERY: PONIES & PENGUINS New works by Holly Bronko and Alexandra Valenti. *2309 Thornton*.

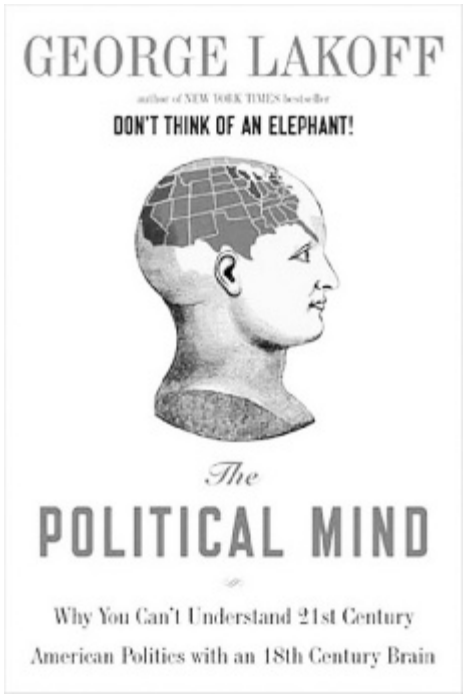
GAY FAY KELLY: DICK LAVINE Lavine organizes diptychs and triptychs based on repetition of form and color but bound by an overreaching play on words. Call for appointment. *Through Jan. 28. 1811 W. Eighth, 478-7676.* **www.gayfaykellyart.com**.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos, 457-0171.* **www.pablotaboadastudio.com**.

ARTHOUSE: RAPTURE IN RUPTURE Curator Elizabeth Dunbar presents new works by Lauren Kelley, Shiri Mordechay, Mindy Shapero, and Nicolau Vergueiro. *Through Jan. 11. 700 Congress, 453-5312. Free.* **www.arthousetexas.org**.

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: FROM A TO Z Photographs by Bill Oakey and Jack Marshall, glasswork by Kim Brill. *1507 W. Koenig, 589-2905.* **www.artspoken.com**.

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527.* **www.austinartglass.com**.



BLANTON MUSEUM: ALTERNATE WORLDS The work of self-taught artists often reflects a unique perspective framed by complex personal experiences. See how here. *Through March 8. MLK & Congress, 471-7324.* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. *108 W. 43rd, 380-0770.* **www.austinbluemoon.com**.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a South Austin home. Hours: *Saturdays and Sundays, noon-9pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413.* **www.keepaustinweird.com**.

D BERMAN GALLERY: ANN MATLOCK & MARJORIE MOORE Two Texas women respond through their intricate and compelling artwork to different aspects of their environment of the last few years. Gallery talk: *Sat., Jan. 10, 1pm*. Exhibition: *Through Jan. 24. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877.* **www.dbermangallery.com**.

DAVIS GALLERY: HOLIDAY GROUP SHOW Here's another fine group show offering work by some of the most exciting artists around: Stella Alesi, Laurel Daniel, Chris De Dier, Matthew Fuller, Joseph Hammer, Sandra Langston, David Leonard, Randall Reid, Christopher St. Leger, William Wahlgren. Be still, my heart; be generous, my wallet. *Through Jan. 10. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929.* **www.davisgalleryaustin.com**.

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and "sculptural tattoos" by Joyce DiBona. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646.*

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY *309-B Bowie, 320-0072.*

LBJ WILDFLOWER CENTER: BARRY GEORGE Eleven whimsical and captivating metal sculptures are on display through the gardens. *Through Jan. 31. 4801 La Crosse, 232-0100.* **www.wildflower.org**.

MEXIC-ARTE: CREANDO FUERZA: CAMBIO Y PERMANENCIA A collective portfolio by members of Consejo Gráfico, an independent network of Latino printmaking centers, explores the centers' diverse origins and dimensions and cultural resonance within a broader American community of printmaking. *Through March 1. 419 Congress, 480-9373.* **www.mexic-artemuseum.org**.

CITY OF AUSTIN EMPLOYEES ART EXHIBITION Opening reception and awards ceremony: *Thu., Jan. 15, 6-8pm*. Exhibition: *Through Feb. 14. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 454-9912. Free.* **www.vsatx.org**.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. *6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901.* **www.mitchie.com**.

REAL GALLERY: MULTICULTURAL ARTISTS PARTNERSHIP Members' holiday art exhibition. *2824 Real, 775-0458.* **www.artworksbykathiherrin.com**.

CATCH SOME POLITICALLY COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS WITH AUTHOR GEORGE LAKOFF ON KOOP RADIO THIS FRIDAY.

STUDIO ELY: JENNIFER ELY The artist renders canvasses colorful with an elegant, eclectic style. *Through Jan. 10. 2124 E. Sixth, 482-8680.* **www.studioely.com**.

SPACES

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. *701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266.* **www.decola-eusebi.com**.

GUTTERKITTY STUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT *102 Krebs.* **ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com**.

ARTWORKS GALLERY Tropical butterflies displayed in plexiboxes designed by G.W. Clark. *1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.*

CAFFE MEDICI: LANCE ROSENFIELD New photography. *1101 West Lynn, 569-0432.* **www.rosenfieldphotography.com**.

LITTLE CITY: ENTANGLEMENT Art by J. Lowry Doyle. *916 Congress, 476-2489. Free.* **www.jlowrydoyle.com**.

THE PARLOR: BIRDS, BEASTS & TEETH New screen prints and drawings by David Lujan. *Through Jan. 6. 4301 Guadalupe, 323-0440.* **www.myspace.com/theparlor**.

WESTS Artwork by Dan-Ramone Vivan Chavez, Raquel Reyes, and others. *408 Josephine.*

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

THE AUSTIN POLYMER CLAY GUILD meets on the first Saturday of each month. Visitors welcome. See website for details. *Sat., Jan. 3, 2-4:30pm. Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock*. **www.austinpolymerclay.com**.

INTERNATIONAL MAIL ART SHOW: CALL FOR ENTRIES The theme for this show is Spaceman: Dada: Robot. All pieces received will be exhibited in the Vortex theatre lobby during the January run of the new David Jewell and Sergio Samayoa show that's also called *Spaceman: Dada: Robot*. Send your art to *SDR, 8003-B Tisdale, Austin, TX 78757*. Deadline: *Jan. 5*.

STUDIO2GALLERY: CALL FOR ENTRIES "Love's Writ" is open to all styles and artists. Artworks submitted must have been executed within the last three years to be eligible. Juror: Jacqueline May. Fee: *$25, first three entries; $5 each additional*. Deadline: *Jan. 5. 1700 S. Lamar #318, 386-9233.* **www.studio2gallery.com**.

litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

TEXAS NAFAS presents the third part of the Jeraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival series: Jane Hirshfield and Joy Harjo. *This program airs every Saturday in January on Channel 16. Check the website for exact times.* **www.channelaustin.org**.

PEOPLE UNITED features cognitive linguist George Lakoff on his new book, *The Political Mind: Why You Can't Understand 21st-Century American Politics with an 18th-Century Brain*. Allan Campbell hosts, with a regular commentary from Rahul Mahajan. *Fri., Jan. 2, 1pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM.* **www.koop.org**.

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

THE AUSTIN FICTIONISTS are looking for a few good writers. They meet every two weeks for workshops and reviews; they specialize in fiction but have critiqued essays and other writing; they're very selective about finding serious candidates who will commit to developing their own work and provide balanced critiques of others'. Interested? Send a sample of your writing (between 2,500 and 5,000 words) for consideration. **justincgordon@gmail.com**.

APL CONTEMPORARY FICTION revives *The Lazarus Project* by Aleksandar Hemon. *Mon., Jan. 5, 7pm. Little City, 916 Congress, 476-2489.* **www.littlecity.com**.

OPEN MICS

EXPRESSIONS SAN ANTONIO POETS hosted by Jim Stewart from Cafe Latino. All ages reading. Potluck at break. Canned goods for Poets Pantry. *Sat., Jan. 3, 7pm. Austin Bahai Center, 2215 E.M. Franklin, 926-8880.* **www.austinbahai.org**.

GENUINE JOE All acts welcome. No cover songs. *Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576.* **www.genuinejoe.com**.

THE HIDEOUT is hosted by Thom the World Poet. Annie La Grange on Jan. 5. Bring canned food for the Poets Pantry. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. $2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry).* **www.hideouttheatre.com**.

HOT MAMA'S OPEN MIC Food, beer, wine, and caffeine available. *Tuesdays, 7:30-9pm. Hot Mama's Espresso Bar, 2401 E. Sixth, 476-6262.* **www.myspace.com/hotmamasespresso**.

SPOKEN AND HEARD is co-hosted by Stacey Shea and Element 615. Uncensored round robin. *Sundays, 7-9pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.* **www.kickbuttcoffee.com**.

RUTA MAYA POETRY is one of the longest-running weekly open mics in Texas. No cover. Uncensored. Hosted by David Bates. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rmpoetryaustin.com**.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry and a rotating group of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, pomo theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast of an evening. Open sign-up, 12 poets per week. $100 cash prizes. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Scoot Inn & Bier Garten, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200.* **www.austinslam.com**.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS @ VINNY'S Hosted by Kathleen Romana or a rotating cast of local stalwarts. *Vinny's Italian Cafe, 1003 Barton Springs Rd., 482-8484. Free.*

POEM OF THE ISSUE

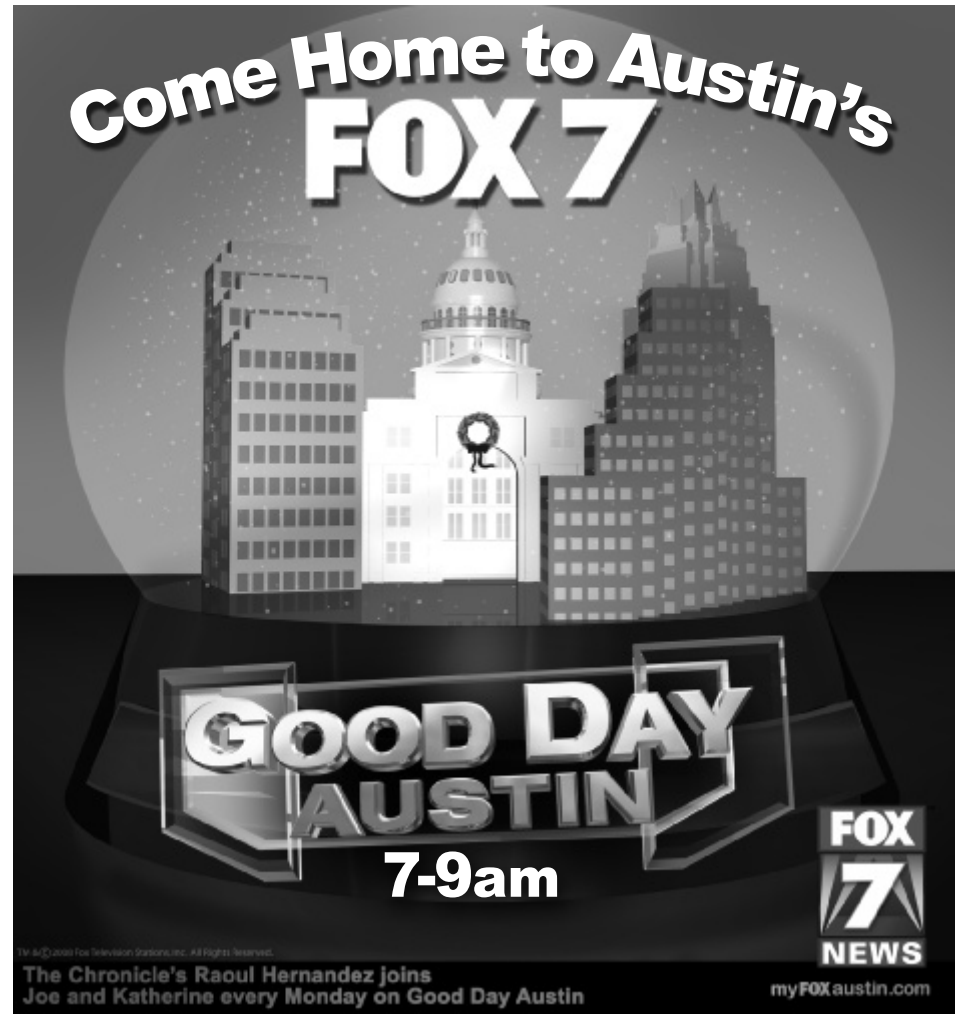
Tho the time lacks light
from sincerity and trust
a waking nod to those who come
a toast to those who know us
and when the cheer
passes on
the houses yawning in yearning nods
and sleep (for then to dream)
we find
our way with simple love
on all paths that summon forward
– Kristi Sprinkle

CALL FOR ENTRIES

2009 AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL is calling for submissions for its youth poetry anthology from kids in grades K-12 in public/private/homeschool settings. See website for details. Deadline: *Feb. 1.* **www.aipf.org**.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *the slow drip a lingering cut with sudden turns how did it move so far in such a languid curling out & then a wanting slipped straw in mud – a shadow caked – split the weave to knot a notting thing the point between the here & not here to be again & gone*. Namaste. Vaya con dios.



film listings



new review

THE SPIRIT
D: Frank Miller; with Gabriel Macht, Eva Mendes, Samuel L. Jackson, Scarlett Johansson, Paz Vega, Sarah Paulson, Jaime King. (PG-13, 103 min.)

Miller's big-screen adaptation of Will Eisner's comic-book crime fighter has plenty of spirit but no soul at all. And that's a crying shame, since Miller, himself the celebrated creator of the *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns* and *Sin City* graphic novels (and the co-director of the the film version of the latter, with Robert Rodriguez), would seem to be the ideal choice to bring Eisner's mid-20th century undead tough guy to ever-lovin' life. But the result, which looks and feels like a pastiche of some of the lesser bits of Troublemaker Studios' *Sin City* that have been Scotch Taped to a dull and painfully chatty plot, is just plain aggravating. The action – what there is of it – revolves around the acquisition of something shiny (as in *Pulp Fiction*-briefcase shiny or Ark of the Covenant shiny) and something immortality-bestowing, but that's beside the point, really. Miller wants to thrust the audience into Eisner's grittily humorous, joyously unpolitically correct world of bullets, blondes, and bloodshed, but there is no joy in this particular vision of Central City, and mighty Miller has struck out – big time. It doesn't help matters that his choice to play the Spirit (in Eisner's reality, a mysteriously revivified flat-foot named Denny Colt), Macht, has all the knock-down, drag-out charisma of an Acme brand novelty anvil. Nor does it add anything to the film to have Jackson's underworld evildoer, the Octopus, change his wardrobe from natty crimelord to Josef Mengele-inspired kitsch every other sequence. (Although, truth be told, I did get a kick, as apparently also did the hammy Jackson, from the scene in which the actor goes all Sturm und Drang in full Nazi regalia while a green-screened führer fulminates from behind.) As for the many ladies of the Spirit's world, much is made of his lust for them, *all* of them, but most specifically his childhood crush Sand Seref (Mendes, more draped up and dripped out than rapper Bun B on payday and the only bit of sparkle in an otherwise monochrome noirscape). In Miller's version of Eisner, though, a dame by any other name is still a skirt or a dragon lady or a sucker. Why *any* of them would topple heels-over-coiffure for this masked enigma is never explained. Sure, he's bulletproof, but he doesn't pack a rod of notable caliber, and his pith is all piffle. Ultimately, it's a long, incoherent mess of a film, enlivened only by the sure knowledge that the great Will Eisner's original is available to one and all at your nearest comic-book shop. – *Marc Savlov*

★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

first runs

***Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.**

AUSTRALIA
D: Baz Luhrmann; with Nicole Kidman, Hugh Jackman, Brandon Walters, David Wenham, David Ngoombujarra, Bryan Brown, Ray Barrett. (R, 170 min.)

Luhrmann has never been afraid to go big, and with this, his long-awaited follow-up to 2001's *Moulin Rouge*, his canvas stretches as wide as the continent it chronicles. But the bigger the scope and the bigger the ambition, the less control Luhrmann seems to have over his epic productions. *Australia* is a fairly straightforward and occasionally quite involving love story between a man and a woman, a woman and an orphaned child, a people and the land. It's an overpacked film, to be sure, and Luhrmann front-loads the best stuff in the first of the film's three distinct sections, including a breakneck cliffside cattle stampede that ends in a gorgeous, three-person clutch. Luhrmann wants it all – comedy and tragedy, bombast and wet-eyed sentimentality. When it works, his kid-in-a-candy-store giddiness is infectious. When it doesn't – when he goes from silly to turgid in 60 seconds flat – he punctures *Australia*'s proportions down from epic to simply overwrought. *(11/28/2008)* – *Kimberley Jones*

★★½ Gateway, Metropolitan

BEDTIME STORIES
D: Adam Shankman; with Adam Sandler, Keri Russell, Guy Pearce, Russell Brand, Richard Griffiths, Teresa Palmer, Lucy Lawless, Courteney Cox. (PG, 99 min.)

Adam Sandler has finally found his audience: 3-year-olds. It makes perfect sense, really. From setting bags of dog feces on fire in *Billy Madison* to urinating on buildings in *Big Daddy* to ogling bouncing breasts in *Click*, Sandler has always prided himself on being the poster boy for American male regression, so it was only a matter of time before he gave up the pretense of being an adult and just started making kids movies. In his latest, Sandler plays a goofy hotel handyman with a passion for the simpler things in life – gum balls, sports cars, laughing at little people – who is suddenly thrust into the world of adult responsibility. But unlike previous films in which Sandler's infantile irrepressibility played like an act of rebellion against the square world, in *Bedtime Stories*, the actor's childishness, when in such close contact with the childishness of real children, comes off merely weird, if not borderline mentally challenged. *(12/26/2008)* – *Josh Rosenblatt*

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
D: Raja Gosnell; with Piper Perabo, Jamie Lee Curtis, Michael Urie; with the voices of Drew Barrymore, Andy Garcia, George Lopez, Cheech Marin, Paul Rodriguez, Plácido Domingo, Edward James Olmos, Loretta Devine. (PG, 85 min.)

If you are an adult going to see this film solo or with a peer, you deserve every tired cliché trotted out. But if you or your moviegoing companion are anywhere within whistling distance of adolescence, you'll howl at this lowbrow, family-friendly trifle. Aunt Viv (Curtis), an L.A. make-up maven, entrusts her spoiled, designer-clad Chihuahua, Chloe (voiced by Barrymore), to her niece Rachel (Perabo). The niece prefers dashing across the Mexican border for the weekend with her girlfriends to overseeing the dog's ritzy round of beauty treatments and spa appointments. Naturally, the prissy pooch gets lost, and naturally, a string of characters emerges to assist in Chloe's return, including Aunt Viv's studly landscaper, Sam (Manolo Cardona), and his Chihuahua, Papi (voiced by Lopez). The CG effects are fairly irresistible, as is the enormous canine cast. *Beverly Hills Chihuahua* is a silly, if guilty, pleasure. *(10/10/2008)* – *Margaret Moser*

★★ Movies 8


Marley & Me

openings & ratings

No new films open in Austin this week.

★★★★★	As perfect as a movie can be
★★★★	Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
★★★	Has its good points, and its bad points
★★	Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
★	Poor, without any saving graces
💣	La bomba

BODY OF LIES
D: Ridley Scott; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Russell Crowe, Mark Strong, Golshifteh Farahani, Oscar Isaac, Ali Suliman, Alon Aboutboul, Simon McBurney. (R, 129 min.)

DiCaprio and Crowe make for interesting friends and foils in Scott's new geopolitical thriller. They represent the polar extremes of the types of operatives running the plays in today's counterassault on global terrorism. DiCaprio plays Roger Ferris, a lone CIA operative on the ground in the Middle East whose movements are meanwhile observed in real time through an array of modern media devices by his handler, Ed Hoffman (Crowe), a paunchy company man who conducts the war on terrorism from the comfort of his living room. The contrasts between the two men could not be more pronounced, yet they share the belief that everyone is expendable – that is until Ferris develops a love connection with a woman (Farahani) in Jordan. This love story seems totally grafted on to an otherwise taut story. Despite the terrific acting and Scott's dynamic storytelling, *Body of Lies* remains strangely emotionless. *(10/10/2008)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Movies 8

BOLT
D: Byron Howard, Chris Williams; with John Travolta, Miley Cyrus, Susie Essman, Mark Walton, Malcolm McDowell, James Lipton. (PG, 96 min.)

Bolt, an animated American White Shepherd (voiced by Travolta), has been born and raised on a film studio lot and truly believes himself to possess those "radical canine enhancements" that his character displays every week on TV. Bolt is completely oblivious of his status as a flesh-and-blood nipper, so when he ends up accidentally shipped from his closed Hollywood environs to "the real world," aka New York City, the stage is set not only for a classic Disney road trip but also for a series of alternately comic and wistful revelations regarding the true nature of heroism, friendship, and love. The writing team of Dan Fogelman (*Cars*) and co-director Williams (*Mulan*) has concocted one of the most witty and often hilarious Disney outings in years. Add to that the beautifully nuanced vocal work from all involved, *plus* some of the most deliriously inspired animation to come out of Disney in years, and the end result is, to quote Rhino, *awwwesome*. *(11/21/2008)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★★½ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

CADILLAC RECORDS
D: Darnell Martin; with Adrien Brody, Jeffrey Wright, Gabrielle Union, Columbus Short, Cedric the Entertainer, Emmanuelle Chriqui, Eamonn Walker, Mos Def, Beyoncé Knowles, Eric Bogosian. (R, 108 min.)

Cadillac Records is a music portrait of the musicians, such as Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Little Walter, Chuck Berry, and Etta James, who gravitated to postwar Chicago and the Chess Records label, which recorded and promoted so much of their work. Although writer/director Martin's movie plays loose with many of the historical facts, her aim is dead-on in terms of nailing the spirit of the thing. *Cadillac Records* bobs and weaves, strides and duckwalks, samples and smiles on the sounds that made urban Chicago such a blues melting pot. It's best to not get too hung up on the purity of every single ingredient that goes into the pot, because that will only get in the way of the dish's overall taste, and *Cadillac Records* has flavor galore. The actors cast as the bluesmen and -women are spectacular – again, not so much for their physical mimicry but for their spiritual inhabitation of the historical figures. *(12/12/2008)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Tinseltown South

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON
D: David Fincher; with Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, Julia Ormond, Taraji P. Henson, Tilda Swinton, Jared Harris. (PG-13, 159 min.)

It's quite a feat, really, to have stretched F. Scott Fitzgerald's slender, unsentimental curio into a three-hour-long – very long – motion picture about Benjamin (Pitt), who is born with the arthritic creak of an old man and proceeds to age in reverse. Everything that was sharp in the original text has been rounded and buffed; Fitzgerald's cynical eye toward humans' fleeting attractions, and attractiveness, has been junked for a love story – you know the kind – that spans decades of rising hemlines and missed opportunities. Screenwriter Eric Roth transposes the action from antebellum Baltimore to Armistice Day in New Orleans (which accommodates an ineffective framing story involving Hurricane Katrina). The problem with this kind of episodic (un) coming-of-age tale – as with Roth's previous Oscar bait, *Forrest Gump* – is that too often transitions, major life decisions, feel unmotivated. Fincher is a master craftsman, to be sure, but I didn't buy this story for a second. *(12/26/2008)* *– Kimberley Jones*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

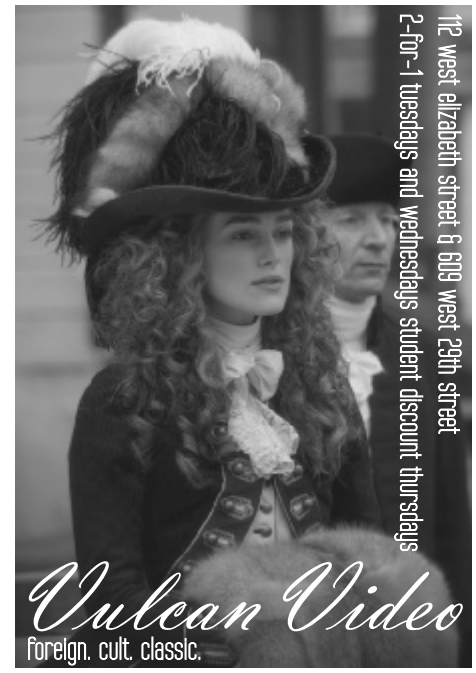


Bolt

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
D: Scott Derrickson; with Keanu Reeves, Jennifer Connelly, Kathy Bates, Jaden Smith, John Cleese, Jon Hamm, Kyle Chandler. (PG-13, 103 min.)

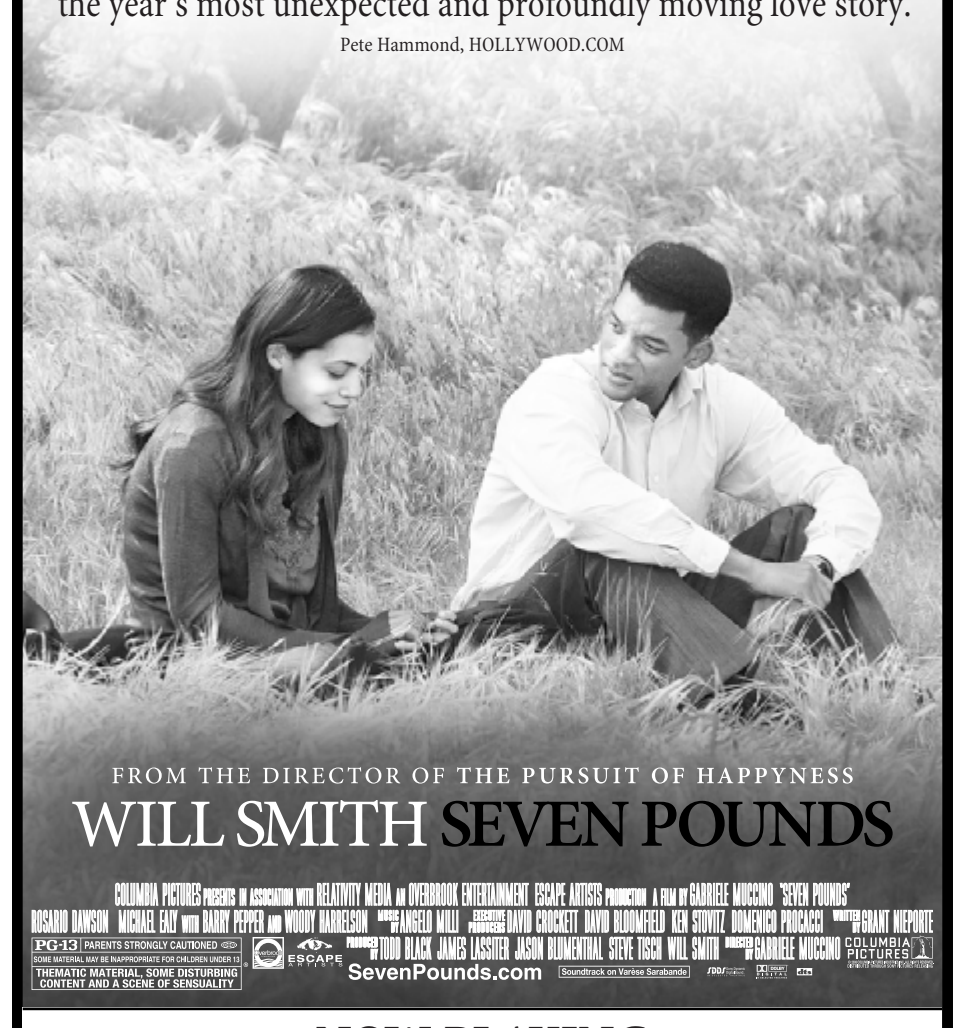
Unsurprisingly, this loud, hammy, and, above all, pointless do-over only serves to point out the genius of the original. Screenwriter David Scarpa sticks to the rudiments of Edmund H. North's 1951 script but garnishes the film's overriding and still-resonant message with wooden warnings from the equally wooden Reeves and then ladles on the CGI destruction to little effect. Reeves displays precious few emotions and even less acting. He plays the character of Klaatu (who is, lest we forget, the potential destroyer and/or savior of all mankind) as though he were on robo-pilot. Connelly does her best as the sci-gal whose rocky relationship with her preteen stepson eventually leads to tears, hugs, and the redemption of all mankind (maybe). But even she – or a stern Bates or a decidedly unsilly cameo by Cleese – can't save this dull, unnecessary film from its total lack of "Gosh, wow!" sense of wonder. *(12/12/2008)* *– Marc Savlov*

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South



EXPERIENCE THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON

"A GIFT FOR MOVIEGOERS,
the year's most unexpected and profoundly moving love story."
Pete Hammond, HOLLYWOOD.COM



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS
WILL SMITH SEVEN POUNDS

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA AN OVERBROOK ENTERTAINMENT ESCAPE ARTISTS PRODUCTION A FILM BY GABRIELE MUCCINO "SEVEN POUNDS"
ROSARIO DAWSON MICHAEL EALY WITH BARRY PEPPER AND WOODY HARRELSON MUSIC BY ANGELO MILLI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DAVID CROCKETT DAVID BLOOMFIELD KEN STOVITZ DOMENICO PROCACCI WRITTEN BY GRANT NIEPORTE
PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13
THEMATIC MATERIAL, SOME DISTURBING CONTENT AND A SCENE OF SENSUALITY
PRODUCED BY TODD BLACK JAMES LASSITER JASON BLUMENTHAL STEVE TISCH WILL SMITH DIRECTED BY GABRIELE MUCCINO
COLUMBIA PICTURES
SevenPounds.com
Soundtrack on Varèse Sarabande

NOW PLAYING
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

showtimes FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 – THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ *320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.*

High for the Holidays: *The Big Lebowski:* Fri-Sat, 7:30pm
Weird Wednesday: *Chained Heat:* Wed, 12mid
Elvis Presley's Birthday Sing-Along: Thu (1/8), 7:00pm
Big-Screen Sci-Fi Classics: *Escape From New York:* Sat, 5:00pm; Sun, 10:00pm; Mon, 7:20pm; Wed, 9:45pm
Terror Tuesday: *Howling II:* Tue, 10:00pm
JCVD: Fri, 4:30pm; Sat-Sun, 2:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 4:30pm
Girlie Night: *Mean Girls:* Tue, 7:20pm
Milk: 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
Pop Princess Sing-Along: Thu (1/8), 9:30pm
Music Monday: Soul Night: Mon, 9:45pm
Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash '09: Sat, 10:25pm
Trinidad: Sun, 5:00, 7:30
TV @ the Alamo: *24:* Wed, 7:00pm
High for the Holidays: Dark Side of the Rainbow: *The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon:* Fri, 10:20pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK *13729 Research, 219-5408.*

Cult Thursday: *The Amazing Mr. No Legs:* Thu (1/8), 10:00pm
***Bedtime Stories:** Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 10:30pm; Mon-Wed, 12:15, 3:15, 7:10, 10:00; Thu (1/8), 12:15, 3:15, 7:10
***The Curious Case of Benjamin Button:** 11:00am, 3:00, 6:50, 10:40pm
The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri-Wed, 12:15, 3:30, 7:25, 10:20; Thu (1/8), 12:15, 3:30
Seven Pounds: 11:30am, 3:20, 7:00, 10:10pm
***The Spirit:** 11:45am, 3:05, 7:15, 10:20pm
***Valkyrie:** 12:10, 3:25, 7:25, 10:30
Yes Man: 12:00, 3:10, 6:45, 9:45

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH *1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.*

Bedtime Stories: Fri, 11:15am, 1:40, 4:05, 6:45, 9:15pm; Sat, 11:15am, 4:05, 6:45, 9:15pm; Sun-Tue, 11:15am, 1:40, 4:05, 6:45, 9:15pm; Wed, 11:15am, 1:40, 4:05, 9:35pm; Thu (1/8), 11:15am, 1:40, 4:05, 6:45, 9:15pm
***Bedtime Stories* (open captioned):** Sat, 1:40pm
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: 11:10am, 2:45, 6:30, 10:05pm
***The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* (open captioned):** Wed, 6:25pm
Doubt: 11:20am, 1:50, 4:20, 7:15, 9:55pm
Let the Right One In: 11:00am
Seven Pounds: Fri, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; Sat-Thu (1/8), 11:25am, 2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15pm
Slumdog Millionaire: 11:05am, 1:45, 4:35, 7:40, 10:35pm
The Spirit: Fri-Tue, 1:35, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40; Wed, 1:35, 4:10, 10:00; Thu (1/8), 1:35, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE *2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090.*

Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old.

The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:45, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon, 1:45, 4:20, 10:10; Tue, 1:45, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10; Wed-Thu (1/8), 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
TV at the Alamo: *Gossip Girl:* Mon, 7:15pm
***Marley & Me:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:15, 4:10, 4:15, 7:10, 10:00pm; Mon-Tue, 1:15, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00; Wed, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
***Valkyrie:** Fri-Tue, 12:15, 3:20, 6:30, 9:30; Wed-Thu (1/8), 3:20, 6:30, 9:30
Yes Man: Fri-Tue, 1:50, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; Wed-Thu (1/8), 4:45, 7:30

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS *9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.*

Discounts daily before 6pm, all day Wednesdays.

Doubt: 12:00, 1:00, 2:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:40, 7:50, 9:40, 10:15
Frost/Nixon: 12:30, 3:20, 7:00, 9:50
Milk: 12:10, 3:10, 7:20, 10:10
Rachel Getting Married: 12:20, 3:00, 7:30, 10:05
The Reader: 12:40, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00
Slumdog Millionaire: 11:50am, 12:50, 2:50, 4:20, 6:50, 7:40, 9:45, 10:20pm

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) *Barton Creek Square mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/AMC-4FUN.*

Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays. Call theatre for showtimes for Friday, Jan. 2, through Thursday, Jan. 8.

***Marley & Me* (sensory friendly):** Sat, 10:00am

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK *1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.*

***Bedtime Stories:** Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 12:00, 1:15, 2:40, 4:00, 5:15, 6:30, 7:50, 9:10, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 1:15, 2:40, 4:00, 5:15, 6:30, 7:50, 9:10, 10:25
Bolt: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:50, 4:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 1:50, 4:20
***The Curious Case of Benjamin Button:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 2:30, 7:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:30, 7:00, 10:30
The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15pm; Mon-Tue, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15; Wed, 2:20pm; Thu (1/8), 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15
Four Christmases: Fri-Sun, 11:45am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30
***Marley & Me:** Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 12:30, 2:00, 3:20, 4:50, 6:15, 7:30, 9:00, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:00, 3:20, 4:50, 6:15, 7:30, 9:00, 10:20
Seven Pounds: 1:00, 4:15, 7:10, 10:00
The Tale of Despereaux: Fri-Sun, 10:55am, 1:30, 4:10, 6:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 1:30, 4:10, 6:40
Metropolitan Opera: *Thaïs:* Wed, 7:00pm
Twilight: 6:50, 9:45
***Valkyrie:** Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
Yes Man: Fri-Sun, 12:15, 2:50, 5:30, 8:00, 9:20, 10:35; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:50, 5:30, 8:00, 9:20, 10:35

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14 *12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO.*

***Bedtime Stories:** Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 12:55, 2:25, 4:00, 5:25, 6:55, 8:05, 9:40, 10:45pm; Sun, 11:30am, 12:55, 2:25, 4:00, 5:25, 6:55, 8:05, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:25, 4:00, 5:25, 6:55, 8:05, 9:40
Bolt: Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:00, 4:45
***The Curious Case of Benjamin Button:** Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:35pm; Sun, 11:15am, 3:00, 7:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 3:00, 7:00
The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05
Four Christmases: Fri-Sun, 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:40, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
***Marley & Me:** Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 12:45, 2:15, 3:45, 5:10, 6:45, 8:15, 9:50, 10:55pm; Sun, 11:15am, 12:45, 2:15, 3:45, 5:10, 6:45, 8:15, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:15, 3:45, 5:10, 6:45, 8:15, 9:50
Quantum of Solace: 10:10pm
Seven Pounds: Fri-Sun, 12:10, 3:25, 6:35, 9:45; Mon-Thu (1/8), 3:25, 6:35, 9:45
The Spirit: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:40pm; Sun, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:30pm; Mon-Tue, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:30; Wed, 2:30pm; Thu (1/8), 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:30
The Tale of Despereaux: Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 2:35, 5:15, 7:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:35, 5:15, 7:50
Metropolitan Opera: *Thaïs:* Wed, 7:00pm
Twilight: 7:20, 10:15
Valkyrie: Fri-Sun, 12:30, 3:35, 7:15, 10:20; Mon-Thu (1/8), 3:35, 7:15, 10:20
Yes Man: Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 12:50, 2:05, 3:50, 5:05, 6:25, 8:00, 9:25, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:05, 3:50, 5:05, 6:25, 8:00, 9:25, 10:30

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK *2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848.*

Discounts daily before 5pm.

Beverly Hills Chihuahua: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 12:15, 1:30, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:15, 7:30, 8:35, 9:55pm; Mon, 12:15, 1:30, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:15, 7:30, 8:35, 9:55; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:30, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:15, 7:30, 8:35, 9:55
***Body of Lies:** Fri-Mon, 12:45, 4:00, 6:55, 9:45; Tue-Thu (1/8), 4:00, 6:55, 9:45
Eagle Eye: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
***High School Musical 3: Senior Year:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 12:00, 1:50, 2:45, 4:30, 5:20, 7:15, 8:20, 9:50pm; Mon, 12:00, 1:50, 2:45, 4:30, 5:20, 7:15, 8:20, 9:50; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:50, 2:45, 4:30, 5:20, 7:15, 8:20, 9:50
***Role Models:** Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:45, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:10, 4:40, 7:45, 10:05
***W.:** Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 2:00, 5:10, 8:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:00, 5:10, 8:30

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK *4401 N. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.*

***Bedtime Stories:** Fri-Mon, 9:45am, 11:10, 12:30, 1:50, 3:10, 4:30, 6:10, 7:30, 8:50, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:50, 3:10, 4:30, 6:10, 7:30, 8:50, 10:10
Bolt: Fri-Mon, 10:10am, 12:40, 3:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:40, 3:30
***The Curious Case of Benjamin Button:** Fri-Mon, 11:00am, 2:50, 7:00, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 2:50, 7:00, 10:30
The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri-Mon, 10:30am, 1:20, 3:50, 6:40, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:20, 3:50, 6:40, 9:10
Four Christmases: Fri-Mon, 9:40am, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:15
***Marley & Me:** Fri-Mon, 10:00am, 11:30, 12:50, 2:20, 3:40, 5:05, 6:30, 8:00, 9:20, 10:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:50, 2:20, 3:40, 5:05, 6:30, 8:00, 9:20, 10:45
Seven Pounds: Fri-Mon, 10:40am, 1:30, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:30, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25
The Spirit: Fri-Mon, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50
The Tale of Despereaux: Fri-Mon, 9:30am, 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
Twilight: 6:15, 9:00
Valkyrie: Fri-Mon, 9:50am, 1:00, 4:05, 7:05, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:00, 4:05, 7:05, 10:00
Yes Man: Fri-Mon, 10:20am, 11:45, 1:10, 2:30, 4:00, 5:20, 6:50, 8:10, 9:30, 10:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:10, 2:30, 4:00, 5:20, 6:50, 8:10, 9:30, 10:40

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS *9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.*

***Bedtime Stories:** Fri-Mon, 10:30am, 1:00, 2:15, 3:35, 4:55, 6:20, 7:35, 8:55, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:00, 2:15, 3:35, 4:55, 6:20, 7:35, 8:55, 10:10
Bolt: Fri-Sun, 11:45am
***The Curious Case of Benjamin Button:** Fri-Mon, 10:40am, 12:55, 2:35, 4:30, 6:10, 8:00, 9:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:55, 2:35, 4:30, 6:10, 8:00, 9:45
The Day the Earth Stood Still: 12:50, 3:30, 6:25, 9:00
Four Christmases: 12:45pm
***Marley & Me:** Fri-Mon, 10:55am, 12:15, 1:35, 3:05, 4:15, 5:45, 7:00, 8:25, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:35, 3:05, 4:15, 5:45, 7:00, 8:25, 9:40
Nothing Like the Holidays: 9:05pm
Seven Pounds: Fri-Mon, 10:50am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20
The Spirit: Fri-Mon, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50pm; Tue, 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50; Wed, 1:40pm; Thu (1/8), 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
The Tale of Despereaux: Fri-Mon, 10:45am, 12:00, 1:15, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:15, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:15
Metropolitan Opera: *Thaïs:* Wed, 7:00pm
Twilight: 3:00, 5:50, 9:10
Valkyrie: Fri-Mon, 11:05am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25
Yes Man: Fri-Mon, 11:20am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:10, 8:30, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:55, 4:35, 7:10, 8:30, 9:55

FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE
austinchronicle.com/film.

DOBIE THEATRE *2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.*

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: Fri-Sun, 3:40, 7:00, 10:20; Mon-Thu (1/8), 7:00, 10:20
The Spirit: Fri, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 2:55, 5:15, 7:40, 10:00; Mon-Thu (1/8), 7:40, 10:00
Valkyrie: Fri, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (1/8), 7:20, 9:50
Yes Man: Fri, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40; Mon-Wed, 7:10, 9:40; Thu (1/8), 9:40pm

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 *North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305.*

No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.

Bedtime Stories: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 12:05, 2:05, 2:30, 4:35, 4:55, 7:05, 7:20, 9:25, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Mon, 11:45am, 12:05, 2:05, 2:30, 4:35, 4:55, 7:05, 7:20, 9:25, 9:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:05, 2:05, 2:30, 4:35, 4:55, 7:05, 7:20, 9:25, 9:45
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 4:00, 7:45, 11:00; Sun-Thu (1/8), 12:00, 4:00, 7:45
The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 11:45pm; Sun-Mon, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10
Marley & Me: Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35, 12mid; Sun-Mon, 11:15am, 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35
Seven Pounds: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00, 11:45pm; Sun-Mon, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
The Spirit: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45pm; Sun-Mon, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25
The Tale of Despereaux: Fri-Sat, 10:40am, 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 11:50pm; Sun-Mon, 10:40am, 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20
Valkyrie: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:35, 11:55pm; Sun-Mon, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:35
Yes Man: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Thu (1/8), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

GATEWAY THEATRE *9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.*

Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a $2.50 premium.

Australia: 1:10, 7:00
Bedtime Stories: 11:30am, 12:20, 1:50, 2:40, 4:10, 5:00, 6:30, 7:20, 9:00, 9:40pm
***Bolt* (3-D):** 11:35am, 1:55, 4:15, 6:45, 9:10pm
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: 12:05, 1:00, 3:30, 4:30, 6:55, 8:00, 10:20
The Day the Earth Stood Still: 11:55am, 2:20, 4:45, 7:05, 9:35pm
Four Christmases: 12:25, 2:45, 4:55, 7:15, 9:30
Marley & Me: 10:40am, 11:10, 1:30, 2:00, 4:20, 4:50, 7:10, 7:40, 10:00, 10:30pm
Quantum of Solace: 10:45am, 4:35, 10:25pm
Seven Pounds: 10:50am, 11:25, 1:35, 2:15, 4:25, 5:05, 7:25, 7:55, 10:15, 10:45pm
The Spirit: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10pm
The Tale of Despereaux: 12:15, 2:50, 5:15, 7:35, 9:55
Valkyrie: 11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:40pm
Yes Man: 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 8:05, 10:35

IMAX THEATRE *Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress, 936-IMAX.*

All Access: Front Row. Backstage. Live!: Mon-Thu (1/8), 5:00, 7:30
Grand Canyon Adventure 3D: River at Risk: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 4:00; Sun, 4:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 12:00, 3:00
The Light Before Christmas: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00pm; Sun, 1:00, 3:00, 7:00, 8:00
Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sun, 10:00am; Mon-Thu (1/8), 10:00am, 1:00pm
U2 3D: Fri-Sat, 9:00pm
Wild Ocean 3D: Fri-Sun, 2:00, 6:00; Mon-Thu (1/8), 11:00am, 2:00, 4:00, 6:30pm

LAKELINE STARPORT *Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793.*

Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday. Call theatre for showtimes for Friday, Jan. 2, through Thursday, Jan. 8.

METROPOLITAN *South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.*

Australia: Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 2:50, 6:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 2:15, 6:30, 10:15
Bolt: Fri-Sun, 10:25am, 11:40, 1:50, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00, 7:05, 7:40, 9:40, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 11:45am, 1:20, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00, 7:05, 7:40, 9:40, 10:10pm
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 12:40, 3:10, 4:30, 6:50, 8:15, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 11:40am, 12:40, 3:10, 4:30, 6:50, 8:15, 10:25pm
Doubt: 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:05, 10:40
Marley & Me: Fri-Sun, 1:00, 2:00, 3:50, 4:45, 6:40, 7:35, 9:30, 10:10, 10:25, 11:00; Mon-Thu (1/8), 12:10, 2:00, 3:50, 4:45, 6:40, 7:35, 9:30, 10:20
Seven Pounds: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 10:40, 1:05, 1:40, 4:00, 4:50, 7:00, 7:45, 10:00, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 12:20, 1:40, 4:00, 4:50, 7:00, 7:45, 10:00, 10:45
Metropolitan Opera: *Thaïs:* Wed, 7:00pm
Twilight: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:15, 7:25, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 12:40, 4:15, 7:25, 10:30
Yes Man: Fri-Sun, 10:20am, 10:50, 11:50, 12:50, 1:30, 2:30, 3:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:45, 7:15, 7:55, 9:20, 9:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Tue, 11:50am, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:45, 7:15, 7:55, 9:20, 9:50, 10:35pm; Wed, 11:50am, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:40, 4:10, 5:10, 7:15, 7:55, 9:50, 10:35pm; Thu (1/8), 11:50am, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:45, 7:15, 7:55, 9:20, 9:50, 10:35pm

MILLENNIUM THEATRE *1156 Hargrave, 472-6932.*

Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex. Adults, $6; children, $4.

Twilight: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 12:30, 3:30, 5:30, 8:30pm; Wed-Thu (1/8), 10:30am, 12:30, 3:30, 5:30pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH *North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.*

Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a $2.50 premium.

***Bedtime Stories:** Fri, 10:40am, 11:30, 1:05, 1:55, 3:30, 4:20, 6:00, 6:45, 8:25, 9:10pm; Sat-Mon, 10:40am, 11:30, 1:05, 1:55, 3:30, 4:20, 6:00, 6:45, 8:20, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:05, 1:55, 3:30, 4:20, 6:00, 6:45, 8:20, 9:10
***Bedtime Stories* (in DLP digital):** Fri-Mon, 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55; Tue-Thu (1/8), 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
Bolt: Fri-Mon, 10:30am, 1:00, 3:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:00, 3:35
***Bolt* (3-D):** Fri-Mon, 9:45am; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:15pm
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button: Fri-Mon, 10:45am, 11:50, 1:05, 2:20, 3:25, 4:40, 6:00, 7:00, 8:15, 9:35, 10:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 11:50am, 1:05, 2:20, 3:25, 4:40, 6:00, 7:00, 8:15, 9:35, 10:35pm
The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri-Mon, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00
Doubt: 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
Four Christmases: Fri-Mon, 12:10, 2:30, 4:45, 7:05, 9:20; Tue-Thu (1/8), 2:30, 4:45, 7:05, 9:20
Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa: Fri-Mon, 9:55am; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:05pm
Marley & Me: Fri-Mon, 9:55am, 11:15, 12:35, 1:55, 3:15, 4:35, 5:55, 7:15, 8:35, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:35, 1:55, 3:15, 4:35, 5:55, 7:15, 8:35, 9:55
Nothing Like the Holidays: Fri-Mon, 9:50am; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:10pm
Quantum of Solace: 6:30, 9:10
Seven Pounds: Fri-Mon, 10:45am, 12:05, 1:35, 3:00, 4:25, 5:50, 7:20, 8:40, 10:05pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:35, 3:00, 4:25, 5:50, 7:20, 8:40, 10:05
The Spirit: Fri-Mon, 9:45am, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
The Tale of Despereaux: Fri-Mon, 10:10am, 11:20, 12:30, 1:40, 2:50, 4:00, 5:10, 7:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 12:30, 1:40, 2:50, 4:00, 5:10, 7:25
Metropolitan Opera: *Thaïs:* Wed, 7:00pm
Twilight: 6:15, 9:15
Valkyrie: Fri-Mon, 10:50am, 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/8), 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
Yes Man: Fri-Mon, 10:25am, 11:40, 12:55, 2:10, 3:25, 4:40, 5:55, 7:10, 8:25, 9:40pm; Tue, 11:40am, 12:55, 2:10, 3:25, 4:40, 5:55, 7:10, 8:25, 9:40pm; Wed, 11:40am, 12:55, 2:10, 3:25, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40pm; Thu (1/8), 11:40am, 12:55, 2:10, 3:25, 4:40, 5:55, 7:10, 8:25, 9:40pm

TINSELTOWN SOUTH *South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800.*

$10 "special event" ticket prices apply to Indian films.

***Bedtime Stories:** Fri-Sun, 10:20am, 11:15, 12:05, 12:55, 1:50, 2:40, 3:30, 4:25, 5:15, 6:05, 7:00, 7:50, 8:40, 9:35, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 3:30, 4:25, 5:15, 6:05, 7:00, 7:50, 8:40, 9:35, 10:25
Cadillac Records: 6:10, 9:00
The Day the Earth Stood Still: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 12:20, 1:40, 3:00, 4:20, 5:40, 7:00, 8:20, 9:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 3:00, 4:20, 5:40, 7:00, 8:20, 9:50, 10:30
Four Christmases: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Ghajini: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 2:45, 6:15, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 4:30, 8:30
King: Sun, 2:00, 5:30
Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:55, 3:10, 5:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 3:10, 5:30
Nothing Like the Holidays: Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 4:10, 6:45, 9:20
Quantum of Solace: 7:45, 10:25
Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi: Fri-Sat, 10:45am, 2:30, 6:00, 9:30pm; Sun, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 4:30, 8:30
The Reader: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
The Spirit: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 11:30, 12:50, 2:10, 3:30, 4:50, 6:10, 7:30, 8:50, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 3:30, 4:50, 6:10, 7:30, 8:50, 10:10
The Tale of Despereaux: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 12:00, 1:10, 2:25, 3:35, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 3:35, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
Valkyrie: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 11:30, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/8), 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00

WESTGATE 11 *South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717.*

Discounts daily before 6pm. Call theatre for showtimes for Friday, Jan. 2, through Thursday, Jan. 8.

> *An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.*

> *Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.*

DOUBT D: John Patrick Shanley; with Meryl Streep, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams, Viola Davis, Joseph Foster II. (PG-13, 104 min.)

Shanley adapted his Pulitzer- and Tony Award-winning play, *Doubt*, for the movies and also chose to direct the film. The cast he gathered is peerless, but unfortunately, the actors don't all behave as though they're performing in the same movie. A collection of acting styles from the broad to the contained and the exacting to the unrestrained create an unevenness of tone and interpretation. Streep plays Sister Aloysius, the unwavering principal of the St. Nicholas school, into whose dominion comes the new young priest Father Flynn (Hoffman). The ensuing struggle between the two over morality and power carries with it all the baggage of Catholic tradition and hierarchy as well as the period's secular strife between men and women. It's a cerebral tug-of-war for the viewer, a struggle that's made only more opaque with the film's closing line of dialogue. Meanwhile, storms suddenly stir up outside, and lightbulbs repeatedly burst in Shanley's effort to cinematically underline the pent-up emotions within. *(12/26/2008)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

EAGLE EYE D: D.J. Caruso; with Shia LaBeouf, Michelle Monaghan, Rosario Dawson, Michael Chiklis, Anthony Mackie, Ethan Embry, Billy Bob Thornton, Anthony Azizi. (PG-13, 118 min.)

I could be wrong, but it feels like *Eagle Eye* is arriving a few months late. With its frenetic car chases; its near-erotic fascination with explosions, gadgets, and guns; and its improbable and, in the end, totally disposable storyline, it's the very definition of a summer blockbuster: good, manic fun plus a heavy dose of political intrigue adding up to two hours of clamorous, mind-numbing nonsense. Jerry Shaw (LaBeouf) is a sweet-talking slacker with a chip on his shoulder who gets dragged in to a violent conspiracy against the U.S. government. He is on the run from the FBI (led by a deliciously dyspeptic Thornton) after being framed as a terrorist for reasons he can't understand and narrowly escaping the gaping maw of the post-PATRIOT Act American justice system. Like *Enemy of the State*, *Eagle Eye*'s backdrop is a world gone mad with surveillance and, like *The Terminator* trilogy, one where the machines have slipped their leashes and taken over. *(09/26/2008)* – *Josh Rosenblatt*
★★★ Movies 8


Bedtime Stories

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
DINNER - DRINKS - MOVIES - EVENTS



THE BIG LEBOWSKI WITH WHITE RUSSIANS!
Drink along with the Dude in the Coen Bros classic. "Hey careful, man! There's a beverage here!"
Jan 1-3 (Thu-Sat) at the Ritz



GIRLIE NIGHT: MEAN GIRLS
Join us for Girlie Night with this amazing, written-by-Tina-Fey teen movie with Girlie Night cocktails on the menu!
Tuesday, Jan 6 at the Ritz



24: SEASON 7 PREMIERE
Austin Voices and Fox 7 are giving us a chance to see this much anticipate, 2-hour premiere before it airs! Jack Bauer is BACK!
Wednesday, Jan 7 at the Ritz



TERROR TUESDAY: HOWLING 2 w/ SYBIL DANNING LIVE!
Your favorite horror films have moved to a new night! Sybil Danning joins us for this screening and Weird Weds!
Tuesday, Jan 6 at the Ritz

ALAMO RITZ THEATRE - 320 E 6TH ST

THU, JAN 1	LET THE RIGHT ONE IN			345
	MILK	400	700	955
FRI, JAN 2	MILK	400	700	955
	JCVD			430
	THE BIG LEBOWSKI w/ White Russians!			730
	DARKSIDE OF THE RAINBOW			1020
SAT, JAN 3	JCVD			245
	MILK	400	700	955
	BIG SCREEN CLASSICS: ESCAPE FROM NY			500
	THE BIG LEBOWSKI w/ White Russians!			730
	SUPER HAPPY FUN MONKEY BASH '09!			1025
SUN, JAN 4	JCVD			245
	MILK	400	700	955
	TRINIDAD w/ Special Guest!		500	730
	BIG SCREEN CLASSICS: ESCAPE FROM NY			1000
MON, JAN 5	MILK	400	700	955
	JCVD			430
	BIG SCREEN CLASSICS: ESCAPE FROM NY			720
	$2 MUSIC MON: SOUL NITE			945
TUES, JAN 6	MILK	400	700	955
	JCVD			430
	GIRLIE NIGHT: MEAN GIRLS			720
	TERROR TUES: HOWLING 2 w/ Sybil Danning LIVE			1000
WEDS, JAN 7	MILK	400	700	955
	JCVD			430
	24: SEASON 7 PREMIERE			700
	BIG SCREEN CLASSICS: ESCAPE FROM NY			945
	WEIRD WEDS: CHAINED HEAT w/ Sybil Danning LIVE			MID
THU, JAN 8	MILK	400	700	955
	JCVD			430
	ELVIS PRESLEY'S BDAY SING-ALONG			700
	THE POP PRINCESS SING-ALONG			930
	THE WRESTLER			MIDNIGHT

SOUTH LAMAR - 1120 SOUTH LAMAR BLVD

SEVEN POUNDS	1125*	205*	445*	730	1015
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE	1105	145	435	740	1035*
BEDTIME STORIES ◆	1115	140	405	645	915*
DOUBT ◆	1120	150	420	715	955*
THE SPIRIT ◆		135*	410	700	940*
CURIOUS CASE B. BUTTON ◆		1110	245	630	1005
LET THE RIGHT ONE IN		1100a			
OPEN CAPTION: BEDTIME STORIES ◆			140		(Sat)
OPEN CAPTION: BENJAMIN BUTTON ◆			625		(Wed)
DIONYSIUM			700		(Wed)

VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET

MARLEY AND ME ◆	1105	115	410	710	1000
VALKYRIE ◆	1100	130	420	730	1030
YES MAN ◆		140	415	705	945
EARTH STOOD STILL		145	430	725	1015
ROCKY HORROR			MIDNIGHT		(Sat)

CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATED MOVIE TIMES
$6.50 MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM, $6.50 STUDENTS, SENIORS, KIDS OVER 6 W/ PARENTS
SHOWS WITH * SAT, SUN, TUES ONLY · ◆ NO PASSES - GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE



Book a private screening for your company or group!
venuerental.originalalamo.com
Alamo Venue Rental
(512) 407-9531
476-1320 - WWW.ORIGINALALAMO.COM - NO INFANTS
18 & UP ALL SHOWS - BEST THEATER IN AUSTIN!

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
DINNER - DRINKS - MOVIES - EVENTS
LAKECREEK SHOWTIMES
(183 & LAKECREEK PARKWAY)

The Curious Case of BENJAMIN BUTTON (11:00 3:00) ◆ 6:50 10:40
BEDTIME STORIES (11:15 1:45 4:20) ◆ 7:10 10:30
NEXT WEEK SHOWTIMES WILL CHANGE 1/5
THE SPIRIT (11:45 3:05) ◆ 7:15 10:20
VALKYRIE (12:10 3:25) ◆ 7:25 10:30
YESman (12:00 3:10) 6:45 9:45
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL (12:15 3:30) 7:25 10:20
SEVEN POUNDS (11:30 3:20) 7:00 10:10
() MATINEE
SHOWTIMES ARE FOR 1/2 - 1/8
ALL TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
FOR UP TO DATE TIMES GO TO WWW.DRAFTHOUSE.COM

COLLEGE FOOTBALL at the ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
OHIO STATE vs. TEXAS — JANUARY 5TH 7:00 PM
FLORIDA vs. OU — JANUARY 8TH 7:00 PM
free admission
guarantee your seat with purchase of $5 food/bev voucher

2 Night 24 Season Premiere
January 11th and 12th 7:00 pm
Season 7
LOST THE PREMIERE EVENT
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21ST
BATTLESTAR GALACTICA SEASON 4
1.16.09 FREE ADMISSION

JOHN SINGLETON RETROSPECTIVE AT THE ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA
Poetic Justice — January 14th & 15th
Boyz N the Hood — January 21st & 22nd

BABY DAY EVERY TUESDAY! FIRST SHOW OF EACH FILM. INFANTS ARE WELCOME
TO PLAN YOUR NEXT PRIVATE PARTY OR CORPORATE EVENT
CALL JESSICA (512) 219-7802
ONLINE TICKETS AND UPDATES AT WWW.DRAFTHOUSE.COM
DIGITAL SOUND! ALL SHOWS 18 & UP UNLESS WITH PARENT OR GUARDIAN
SHOWS BEFORE 6PM $6.50 ALLSHOWS MONDAY $6.50 · NO PASSES · NO INFANTS OR CHILDREN UNDER 6 (EXCEPT BABY DAY)

GALAXY THEATRES
#1 IN CUSTOMER SERVICE
HIGHLAND 10 512-467-7305
100% STADIUM SEATING ~ ALL DIGITAL SOUND
BARGAIN MATINEES DAILY
NOTICE: NO ONE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE THEATRE ON FRI. & SAT. AFTER 7PM WITHOUT AN ADULT.

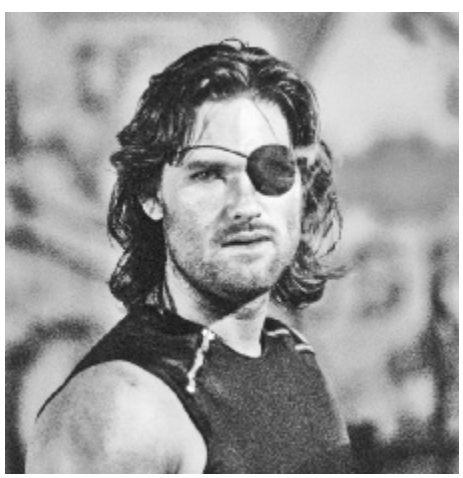
BEDTIME STORIES (PG) Fri. & Sat. 11:45 12:05 2:05 2:30 4:35 4:55 7:05 7:20 9:25 9:45 11:59
Sun. & Mon. 11:45 12:05 2:05 2:30 4:35 4:55 7:05 7:20 9:25 9:45
Tue. - Thu. 12:05 2:05 2:30 4:35 4:55 7:05 7:20 9:25 9:45
THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG–13)
Fri. & Sat. 12:00 4:00 7:45 11:00
Sun. - Thu. 12:00 4:00 7:45
THE SPIRIT (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45
Sun. & Mon. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25
Tue. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25
MARLEY & ME (PG) Fri. & Sat. 11:15 1:50 4:25 7:00 9:35 11:59
Sun. & Mon. 11:15 1:50 4:25 7:00 9:35
Tue. - Thu. 1:50 4:25 7:00 9:35
VALKYRIE (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 10:30 1:20 4:10 7:00 9:35 11:55
Sun. & Mon. 10:30 1:20 4:10 7:00 9:35
Tue. - Thu. 1:20 4:10 7:00 9:35
YES MAN (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45
SEVEN POUNDS (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00 11:45
Sun. & Mon. 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
Tue. - Thu. 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX (G) Fri. & Sat. 10:40 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 11:50
Sun. & Mon. 10:40 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20
Tue. - Thu. 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL (PG–13) Fri. & Sat. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 11:45
Sun. & Mon. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10
Tue. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10
BCS Championship LIVE in 3D. See it at Austin's ONLY 100% Digital Theater January 8th. Tickets on sale now online and in theater.
BCS BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME ON THE BIG SCREEN (NR)
Thu. 7:00
★ - Special Engagement: No Passes/Coupons
Tickets available online at GALAXYTHEATRES.com

FOUR CHRISTMASES D: Seth Gordon; with Vince Vaughn, Reese Witherspoon, Jon Favreau, Robert Duvall, Sissy Spacek, Mary Steenburgen, Jon Voight, Kristin Chenoweth, Dwight Yoakam, Tim McGraw, Katy Mixon. (PG-13, 82 min.)

No yuletide season would be complete without the crappy Christmas movie. This year's entry in this lowly subgenre is *Four Christmases*, a D-list comedy with A-list actors. (No doubt, the five Oscar winners in the cast were motivated by an easy paycheck and the audience exposure found in a critic-proof movie starring Vaughn.) Generously speaking, *Four Christmases* plays like a series of skits randomly connected to one another. So, when the script turns a serious corner to impart a warm and fuzzy message about the importance of a traditional holiday with the family, the sentimentality starts to smell. Vaughn and Witherspoon make for a cute couple – the height difference between the two alone is worth a good laugh – but their different approaches to comic acting clash onscreen. Maybe moviegoers are still keen on Vaughn, but his incessant prattling is quickly becoming stale. *(11/28/2008)* *– Steve Davis*
★½ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

FROST/NIXON D: Ron Howard; with Frank Langella, Michael Sheen, Sam Rockwell, Oliver Platt, Kevin Bacon, Matthew Macfadyen, Rebecca Hall. (R, 122 min.)

Frost/Nixon is a behind-the-scenes account of the momentous interviews with Richard Nixon conducted by British TV personality David Frost in 1977, three years after the former president had resigned from office in disgrace. The film is adapted for the screen by Peter Morgan from his play and stars the play's two leads: Langella (who also won a Tony for this role) as Nixon and Sheen as Frost. Almost by definition, *Frost/Nixon* is a two-handed work, a psychological boxing match between the two protagonists, and Langella and Sheen, the actors, are evenly matched. Each man also counts a few coaches and assistants in his corner, making the taped interviews seem all the more like a prizefight. *Frost/Nixon*, like Morgan's *The Queen*, is at its best when it's examining the fragile intersection of media and politics. On its own, however, I'm not sure that this story of Frost's chutzpah and Nixon's intractability is inherently that gripping. *(12/26/2008)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★★½ Arbor



Escape From New York

***Escape From New York* (1981)** *D: John Carpenter; with Kurt Russell, Lee Van Cleef, Ernest Borgnine, Donald Pleasence, Isaac Hayes, Harry Dean Stanton, Adrienne Barbeau, Season Hubley. (R, 99 min.)* **Big Screen Sci-Fi Classics.** Kurt Russell creates the most unforgettable role of his career: the criminal/hero Snake Plissken. (*) @Alamo Ritz, Saturday, 5pm; Sunday, 10pm; Monday, 7:20pm; Wednesday, 9:45.

Howling II

***Howling II* (1985)** *D: Philippe Mora; with Sybil Danning, Marsha A. Hunt, Reb Brown, Annie McEnroe, Cristopher Lee. (R, 91 min.)* **Terror Tuesday: Sybil Danning Live.** Sybil Danning stars as Stirba, the bisexual queen witch of Transylvania, and has the costumes to prove it. For a real treat, Danning will be in attendance. Danning will also attend a screening of *Chained Heat* on Wednesday. @Alamo Ritz, Tuesday, 10pm; $5 seat reservation at **www.originalalamo.com**.



GHAJINI D: A.R. Murugadoss; with Aamir Khan, Asin Thottumkal, Jiah Khan, Riyaz Khan, Pradeep Rawat. (NR, 180 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. This new Hindi-language film is a remake of a 2005 Tamil film, which was inspired by Christopher Nolan's *Memento*. In the romantic action thriller, a business suffers from amnesia. *(12/25/2008)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
Tinseltown South

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR D: Kenny Ortega; with Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Tisdale, Lucas Grabeel, Corbin Bleu, Monique Coleman, Alyson Reed, Olesya Rulin, Bart Johnson. (G, 112 min.)

Jumping in with the third film in the series presents no continuity problems: The teens from the previous two films are getting the inevitable heave-ho from high school, and they weigh their futures while younger classmates are introduced into the mix (*HSM4* is already in the works). And all the while, they burst into song and dance with a frenzy that's almost beyond human. The music (by David Lawrence) is heavy on the power ballads and fairly undistinguished, but the dancing … oh my goodness. Director/choreographer Ortega is the best thing to happen to movie musicals in decades. Ortega, who also directed the first two films in the series, seizes the possibilities afforded by the big screen and pushes the frame to its outer limits. Full of color, energy, precision, and creativity, Ortega's choreography unleashes the true spirit of movie musicals, which exist to remind us that if the beat is right, it can't be wrong. *(10/31/2008)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★★ Movies 8

JCVD D: Mabrouk El Mechri; with Jean-Claude Van Damme, François Damiens, Zinedine Soualem, Karim Belkhadra, Jean-François Wolff, Anne Paulicevich. (R, 96 min., subtitled)

Jean-Claude Van Damme is the JCVD of the title, and in this career-adjusting film, the Muscles From Brussels advances from laughingstock to smart, respectable action-film star. *JCVD* is a postmodern action movie in which Van Damme, here cast as himself, becomes innocently entangled in bank robbery/hostage crisis. Director and co-screenwriter El Mechri uses nonlinear strategies to tell the backstory of how Van Damme has arrived at this particular moment in time, starting with a stunning, several-minute shot of nonstop action. The film becomes a dark reflection of Van Damme's real life in which his five marriages, a custody dispute, and legendary drug, violence, and money problems have been the stuff of international headlines. *JCVD* shows us Van Damme as a defeated, sympathetic man, a hulk of aging flesh and blood (and muscles). One standout passage – a Van Damme soliloquy – is hotly disputed as either the film's pièce de résistance or primary foible. *(11/21/2008)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★★½ Alamo Ritz

LET THE RIGHT ONE IN D: Tomas Alfredson; with Kåre Hedebrant, Lina Leandersson. (R, 114 min., subtitled)

Knives, fangs, and budding desire; corpses in copses and snowbound ire: Ah, young love. This multi-award-winning Swedish film could be summarized as a vampire tween romance, but that cheap and tawdry sum-up does zero justice to the magnificent emotional resonance of this gemlike bloodstone of a film. The film is a complex examination of what it means to be a young outsider, and its bracing honesty in these matters is on par with Gus Van Sant and Larry Clark. It's creepy in the same way that a youngster's first stirrings of adolescent desire are creepy – both to them and often more so to their elders – when strange attractors come into play and everything seems frighteningly freighted with the surreal, the mysterious, the forbidden. Oskar (Hedebrant), a blond wisp of a bullied, shy boy, and a strange young girl name Eli (Leandersson) are the adolescent outsiders. Their story creates a beautiful horror film and, more important, a beautiful *film*. *(11/14/2008)* *– Marc Savlov*
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA D: Eric Darnell, Tom McGrath; with the voices of Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith, Sacha Baron Cohen, Cedric the Entertainer, Andy Richter, Bernie Mac, Alec Baldwin, Sherri Shepherd, Will.i.am. (PG, 89 min.)

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa extends what *Madagascar* did best: fill up the screen with computer-generated visual novelty. The slapstick humor remains, as does the slack plotting. Introducing only a few new characters that are unfortunately unmemorable, this sequel is likewise a decent diversion that's not much worth talking about afterward. The visual cleverness arises foremost from the central quartet of friends – lion, zebra, hippo, and giraffe – which gets placed strategically in the frame to create funny tableaus. But *Madagascar 2* makes the dubious choice of splitting up the foursome in order to explore kid-worthy lessons about individuality vs. fitting in. Many of the zippiest scenes involve Julien the lemur (Cohen), who's puffed up with self-regard yet eager to entertain. There's something bemusingly weird about his character. More


Milk

of such quirkiness would help adult viewers, but young children will enjoy this piece of sweet cartoon candy. *(11/07/2008)* *– Theresa Everline*
★★★ Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

MARLEY & ME D: David Frankel; with Owen Wilson, Jennifer Aniston, Eric Dane, Kathleen Turner, Alan Arkin, Haley Bennett. (PG, 111 min.)

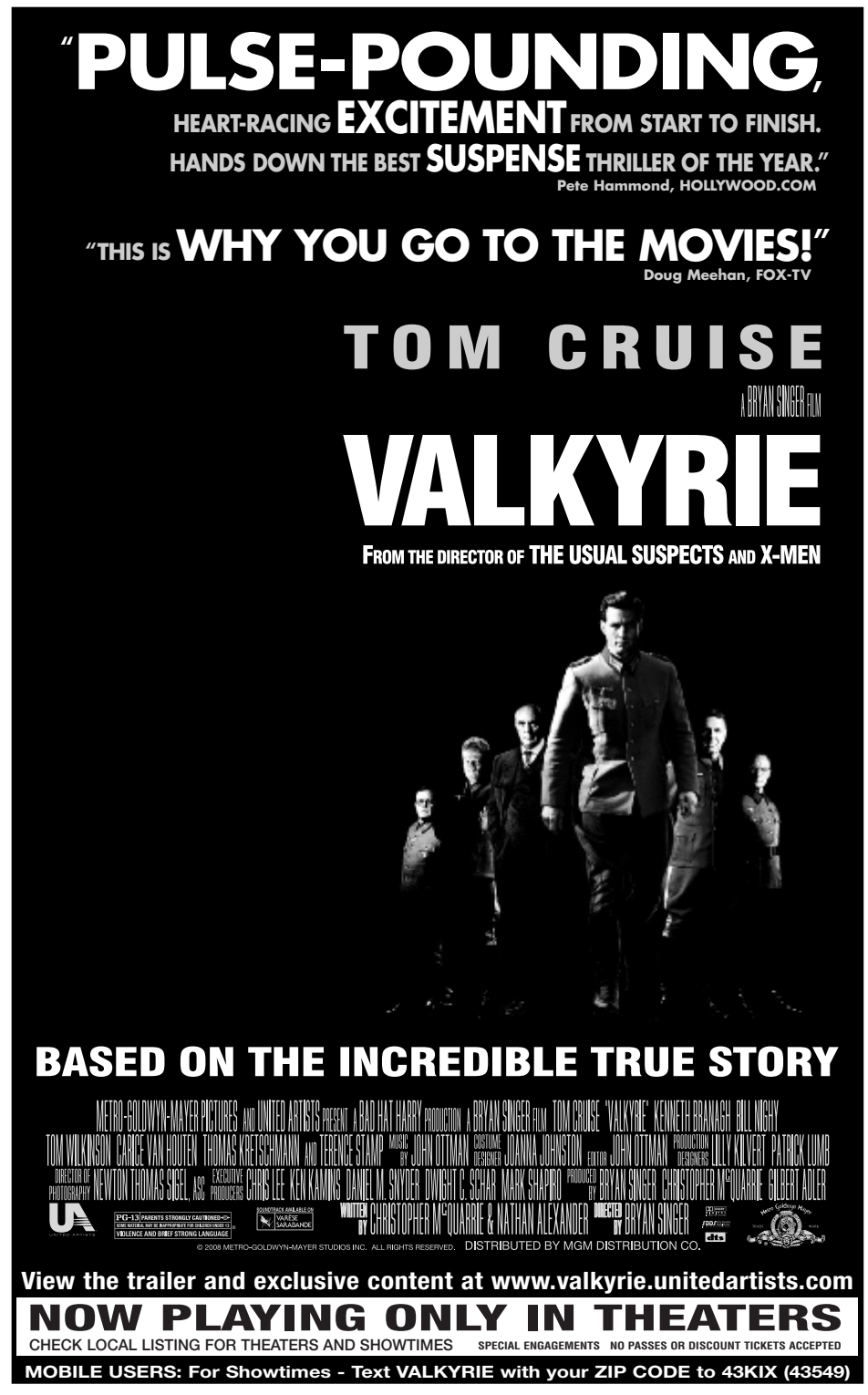
Be you a dog or cat person, you'll likely enjoy Frankel's adaptation of journalist John Grogan's bestselling account of life, love, deadlines, and death with the "world's worst dog," a yellow Labrador retriever named Marley. Never mind the frisky CGI superheroics of *Bolt* or the teary mawkishness of *Old Yeller* – Marley is into extinction-level household devastation, scandalous fecal shenanigans, and the terrorization of Kathleen Turner, all of which sound like great fun and indeed are. Wilson, seemingly fully recovered from whatever personal demons were tormenting him last year, plays Grogan with his usual battered charm, and Aniston, as his wife, Jennifer, is, well, Jennifer Aniston. Ostensibly a story about a mad, bad, dangerous-to-walk dog, *Marley & Me* has far more to say about the bonds that make up the modern American family. And Marley, the dog from hell, (wouldn't you know it) turns out to be nothing shy of a gift from heaven. *(12/26/2008)* *– Marc Savlov*
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

MILK D: Gus Van Sant; with Sean Penn, Emile Hirsch, Josh Brolin, Diego Luna, James Franco, Alison Pill, Victor Garber, Denis O'Hare. (R, 127 min.)

Van Sant's very fine biopic restricts itself to the last decade of Harvey Milk's life, when the semicloseted insurance man living in New York moved to San Francisco's Castro district and embarked upon a historic campaign (four, in fact) to become the first openly gay man elected to public office. Technically, *Milk* is a knockout, and the film is terrifically acted, top to bottom. Still, when the focus of the script (by first-timer Dustin Lance Black) turns almost exclusively to the Proposition 6 fight and Milk's last days, the film loses much of its loose-limbedness. *Milk* is a more conventionally satisfying picture than Van Sant's previous Aughties output, which consisted of aggressively experimental films that didn't always work but got under the skin something fierce. The deeply heartfelt *Milk* is more of a surface skim: a fairly standard biopic – if a very fine one, indeed – but never the transcendent work we hoped for. *(12/05/2008)* *– Kimberley Jones*
★★★½ Alamo Ritz, Arbor

Check Film Listings online for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!
austinchronicle.com/film





NOTHING LIKE THE HOLIDAYS

D: Alfredo De Villa; with Alfred Molina, Elizabeth Peña, Freddy Rodríguez, John Leguizamo, Luis Guzmán, Jay Hernandez, Melonie Diaz, Vanessa Ferlito, Debra Messing. (PG-13, 99 min.)

This overly sentimental family Christmas drama, featuring a veritable checklist of prominent Hispanic actors, falls victim to the shortcoming so prevalent in similarly ethnic-themed movies with similar casts – everything and everyone is so damn serious. Here, old wounds reopen and sibling rivalries resurface as the Puerto Rican Rodriguez clan comes together and then apart at the family home in Chicago over the holidays. The steady stream of confrontations, secrets, and other little dramas jam-pack the movie's script (three screenwriters are credited) in a manner that suggests amateurishness rather than insight, with the ultimate message being (of course) that no matter how many times you scream at your relatives, blood will always be thicker than water. Although he captures the film's Chicago setting in a way that feels authentic, director De Villa seems to have little clue of how to capture the subtleties of human emotion. *(12/19/2008)* – *Steve Davis*

★★ Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

QUANTUM OF SOLACE

D: Marc Forster; with Daniel Craig, Olga Kurylenko, Mathieu Amalric, Judi Dench, Giancarlo Giannini, Jeffrey Wright, Gemma Arterton. (PG-13, 106 min.)

Craig's onscreen charisma and exquisitely thuggish charm are such that he could likely revitalize any number of flagging film franchises with little but a three-second cameo. *Quantum of Solace* proves that *Casino Royale* was no fluke. Director Forster may have seemed an odd choice initially, yet he proves more than up to the task of shepherding James Bond and new Bond girl Kurylenko through a convoluted but not unmanageable plot as both ricochet around the globe in parabolas of vengeance. *Quantum* opens mere minutes after *Casino Royale* ends, and this Bond is bloodier and more enraged than we've ever seen him. Paul Haggis' script (with Neal Purvis and Robert Wade) focuses not on the wages of sin but of vengeance. *Quantum* is a grim, dark, and relentlessly violent film – James Bond as Terminator rather than Templar – but it delivers the goods in bloody high style. *(11/14/2008)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★½ Hill Country Galleria, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

Trinidad

***Trinidad* (2008)** *D: PJ Raval and Jay Hodges. (NR)* Made by two local filmmakers and produced by former SXSW Film exec Matt Dentler, this documentary chronicles Trinidad, Colo.'s transformation from Wild West outpost to the "Sex Change Capital of the World." Documentary subject Sabrina Marcus will be in attendance. The 5pm screening benefits Transgender Advocates of Central Texas. @Alamo Ritz, Sunday, 5, 7:30pm.



RAB NE BANA DI JODI

D: Aditya Chopra; with Shahrukh Khan, Anushka Sharma. (NR, 167 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. In this new Bollywood romance, polar opposites find themselves drawn together by fate. *(12/12/2008)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

Tinseltown South

RACHEL GETTING MARRIED

D: Jonathan Demme; with Anne Hathaway, Rosemarie DeWitt, Bill Irwin, Mather Zickel, Debra Winger, Tunde Adebimpe, Anna Deavere Smith, Anisa George. (R, 113 min.)

Kym (Hathaway) is a recovering addict let out of rehab long enough to attend the wedding of her older sister, Rachel (DeWitt), to a musician named Sidney (Adebimpe, of TV on the Radio). It's sort of a boho creative's sweet dream of a wedding, filled with light and joy and artistic expression … into which stomps Kym, the slouching, raccoon-eyed, self-described "nightmare." She uses the occasion of Rachel getting married to make amends, but even the seemingly good intention of that is a symptom of her self-absorption. Demme successfully returns to more intimate territory with this film and takes an unhurried, you-are-here approach with the camera. Hathaway is at her absolute best when bouncing off of the terrific Irwin (as her father, Paul) and DeWitt, the other two legs in the deeply damaged family unit. Supporting parts by Winger and Deavere Smith get shortchanged, although Demme has a large enough heart to give everyone at least a moment of spotlight. *(10/31/2008)* – *Kimberley Jones*

★★★½ Arbor

THE READER

D: Stephen Daldry; with Ralph Fiennes, Kate Winslet, David Kross, Bruno Ganz, Lena Olin. (R, 123 min.)

The question at the heart of *The Reader* is what have we learned (and forgotten) from history's bloody backwash? Luckily for *The Reader*, the angelic Ganz, as a sage professor of law, is on hand to nudge the question of wartime culpability to the fore. But that's not what's most remarkable about *The Reader*, it's just what's most intellectually chewy. The real red meat of Daldry's film is the May-December romance between a weary-looking, sexually rapacious streetcar ticket-taker (Winslet, shockingly good throughout) in postwar Berlin and the sickly young schoolboy (an enthusiastic, excellent Kross) on whom she initially takes pity and then seduces, ravenously and to his great delight. One day she's gone, with no explanation, and the boy grows into a promising young law student and, later, into a sorrowful-seeming Ralph Fiennes. Daldry, working from a superior script by David Hare, has crafted a film about guilt, love, and history and how the three skeins create human beings or, alternately, human monsters. *(12/26/2008)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★½ Arbor, Tinseltown South

ROLE MODELS

D: David Wain; with Paul Rudd, Seann William Scott, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, Bobb'e J. Thompson, Elizabeth Banks, Jane Lynch. (R, 99 min.)

Misanthropy in the movies has a new face: Paul Rudd. His character in *Role Models*, Danny Donahue, is cranky, cynical, mean to children, endlessly put-upon, bad with women, and in the midst of an epic existential crisis. He's like W.C. Fields with chiseled cheekbones and bedroom eyes. When Danny snaps one day, he and his buddy Wheeler (Scott) are forced by court order to take part in a child-mentoring program (run with hawklike vigilance by the indispensable Lynch), where they learn the value of caring about others while struggling to provide guidance to a teenage nerd and an 8-year-old with the mouth of a David Mamet character. Beautifully cantankerous for 45 minutes or so, it's all downhill for *Role Models* once its two self-involved antiheroes actually start turning into role models, and the transition from feel-bad to feel-good comedy is all the more painful for its squelching of Rudd's cosmically dyspeptic disaffection. *(11/07/2008)* – *Josh Rosenblatt*

★★★ Movies 8

SEVEN POUNDS

D: Gabriele Muccino; with Will Smith, Rosario Dawson, Woody Harrelson, Michael Ealy, Barry Pepper, Elpidia Carrillo, Robinne Lee, Joe Nunez. (PG-13, 120 min.)

Smith plays Ben Thomas, a once-successful engineer who now leads a desperate life of self-loathing and regret. Seeking out the most effective and productive means of self-flagellation, he devises an elaborate scheme of charity/contrition designed to save strangers' lives through the abandonment of his own. Director Muccino (reuniting with his *Happyness* star) and writer Grant Nieporte have gone through pains to keep viewers in a state of suspended half-confusion, but it is safe to reveal that Ben's work involves helping damaged souls, in particular a beautiful young woman (Dawson) who has a congenital heart defect but enough heart to nudge Ben toward something resembling absolution. Throughout the film, Smith proves himself adept in the art of conflicted melancholy – always speaking at the wrong volume, rarely looking people in the eye, and full of forced smiles – and Muccino responds to his star's seriousness with enough darkness and moral ambivalence to keep the story from toppling into heartwarming, pay-it-forward mawkishness. *(12/19/2008)* – *Josh Rosenblatt*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

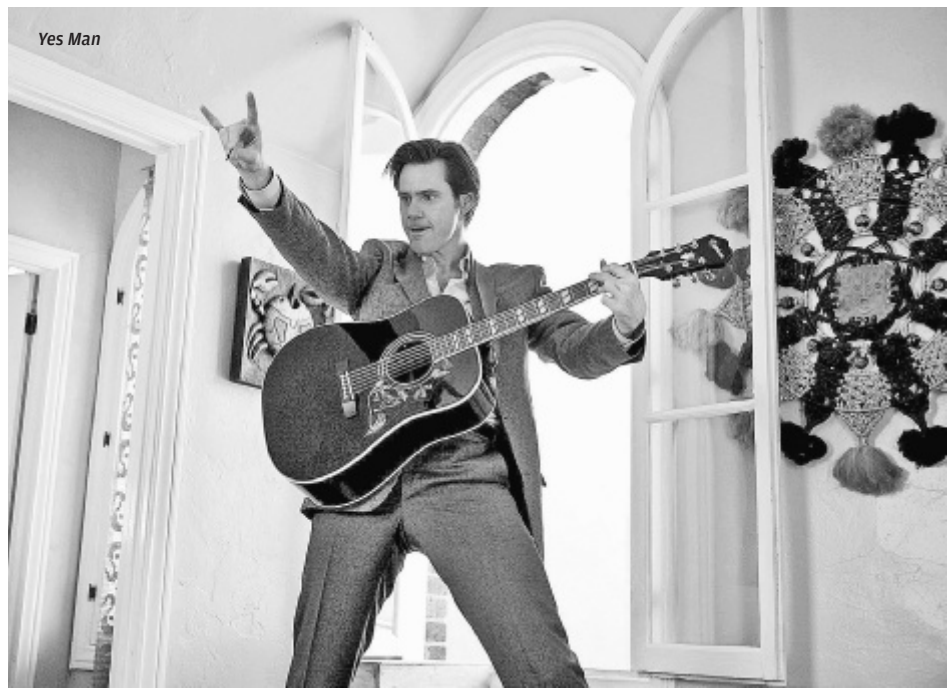
D: Danny Boyle, Loveleen Tandan; with Dev Patel, Anil Kapoor, Freida Pinto, Madhur Mittal, Irrfan Khan, Ankur Vikal. (R, 120 min.)

Slumdog Millionaire is a mad, thrilling, and perversely luminous film. It may be drenched in the saffron and violet palettes of its Mumbai setting, but it plays like a classic Hollywood rags-to-riches love story, albeit one with Bollywood roots and a fully globalized desire to survive, succeed, live, and love within the teeming megalopolis formerly known as Bombay. It's a natural fit for Boyle and director of photography Anthony Dod Mantle. Mumbai is nothing if not giddy chaos incarnate. Patel, in his feature debut, is the "slumdog" of the title, a reed-thin young striver named Jamal Malik. Jamal has managed to survive the crushing poverty and daily tragedies of his birthplace and has somehow landed himself on the Hindi version of *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?*. It's a doozy of a story that piles on the traditional Holly- and Bollywood melodrama but never shies away or strays too far from the Ganges and the ghetto. *(12/12/2008)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor



The Curious Case of Benjamin Button



Yes Man

THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX

D: Sam Fell, Rob Stevenhagen; with the voices of Matthew Broderick, Dustin Hoffman, Emma Watson, Tracey Ullman, Sigourney Weaver, Kevin Kline, William H. Macy, Stanley Tucci, Ciarán Hinds, Robbie Coltrane, Tony Hale, Frances Conroy, Frank Langella, Richard Jenkins, Christopher Lloyd, Bronson Pinchot. (G, 93 min.)

The lesson learned from *The Tale of Despereaux* is that an overabundance of vocal talent does not a good cartoon make. Adapted for the screen by *Pleasantville* and *Seabiscuit* director Gary Ross from the 2004 Newberry Medal-winning novel by Kate DiCamillo, *The Tale of Despereaux* adds up to much less than the sum of its parts. The animation looks decent enough, but the narrative is a choppy story that bobs among human characters in the human kingdom of Dor, where soup seems to be its inhabitants' main preoccupation, and the rodent residents of the separate municipalities of Mouseworld and Ratworld. The movie becomes so intent on introducing characters and revealing the dark chambers of the Ratworld dungeon (enough so that the G rating should be called into question) that it loses many of the book's messages about individuality and valor. Most crippling is the narration by Weaver, which ladles out platitudes by the heaping spoonful. *(12/19/2008)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★½ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

TWILIGHT

D: Catherine Hardwicke; with Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Billy Burke, Peter Facinelli, Elizabeth Reaser, Cam Gigandet, Nikki Reed. (PG-13, 120 min.)

I've had mosquito bites that were more passionate than this undead, unrequited, and altogether unfun pseudo-romantic riff on *Romeo and Juliet*. Based on the hideously readable (or so my dark beloved tells me) series of "don't call them young adult" novels by Stephenie Meyer, *Twilight* is the first in what promises to be a lengthy cinematic franchise featuring sexy vampire boys who just say, "No, I don't drink … *you*." When broody-but-cool teen Bella Swan (Stewart) moves to the permanently overcast town of Forks, Wash., she becomes romantically involved with pallid school hunk Edward Cullen (Pattinson), who is one-sixth of a local vampire "family" which has sworn off the human populace in favor of other sources of the crimson. Bella and Edward's courtship is played out with plenty of dreamy, slo-mo nuance, but Pattinson's cheekbones keep getting in the way of the story, and the third-act arrival of a trio of "bad" vampires appears out of nowhere and goes nowhere, too. *(11/28/2008)* *– Marc Savlov*

★½ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, Millennium, Tinseltown North

VALKYRIE

D: Bryan Singer; with Tom Cruise, Kenneth Branagh, Bill Nighy, Tom Wilkinson, Terence Stamp, Carice van Houten, Thomas Kretschmann, Eddie Izzard. (PG-13, 110 min.)

We all know how it ends, and that foreknowledge dooms Singer's hotly anticipated and much troubled account of the attempt on Adolf Hitler's life by his own officers in July 1944. It's always good to see Hitler threatened or Nazis getting what's coming to them – just ask Indiana Jones – but Cruise, strident, glaring, and positively burbling over with blood and honor and love of Germany's perverted promise, makes for a problematic closet hero. His Col. Claus von Stauffenberg, one of a handful of officers who together plan a suitcase-bomb attack to be carried out at the Wolf's Lair retreat, is fitfully dour. There's more honest suspense in waiting for him to crack a smile (he doesn't, or at least not the famous Cruise version) during all the scheming than there is in anything having to do with the actual assassination attempt. Director Singer, however, pays scrupulous attention to period detail and the mechanics of desperation. *(12/26/2008)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

W.

D: Oliver Stone; with Josh Brolin, Elizabeth Banks, James Cromwell, Ellen Burstyn, Jeffrey Wright, Toby Jones, Thandie Newton, Scott Glenn, Richard Dreyfuss. (PG-13, 131 min.)

Stone's latest is a tale of two movies: one a humanizing portrait of a failure as a young man, the other a damning but unsurprising look inside an administration gone loopy on ideological zealotry. The first is a story that was dying to be told; the second, one that's been told to death. Had Stone probed more subtly the Freudian angst and self-doubt of an heir apparent to a stern and disappointed father, had he examined more closely Bush's political education at the feet of mastermind Karl Rove, then we might have had a new masterpiece from the man who brought us *JFK* and *Nixon*. Instead, Stone the partisan rabble-rouser gradually overpowers Stone the artist, turning his movie into yet another condemnation of the ideological strong-arming that led us into Iraq and the administrative bumbling that got us mired there. In our age of 24-hour news coverage, this rehashing of current events doesn't just come off familiar but completely unnecessary. And, worst of all, prosaic. *(10/17/2008)* *– Josh Rosenblatt*

★★½ Movies 8

YES MAN

D: Peyton Reed; with Jim Carrey, Zooey Deschanel, Bradley Cooper, John Michael Higgins, Rhys Darby, Danny Masterson, Terence Stamp. (PG-13, 104 min.)

Carl (Carrey) is in a funk. Then he discovers a life-changing mantra: Say "yes" to every opportunity that presents itself. This plot gimmick veers suspiciously close to the 1997 Carrey vehicle *Liar Liar*, in which his character compulsively tells the truth, even though supernatural intervention is the cause. In contrast, *Yes Man* believes in free will, with Carl at first struggling to agree to requests small and large, whether it be friends getting him to pick up the bar tab or a homeless person asking for a ride. But soon he's showered with rewards, including a pretty new girlfriend played by actor/singer Deschanel, who's wide-eyed and good-hearted but without a lot of range – a fair description of the film itself. As the good results roll in and Carl starts uttering "yes" without hesitation, *Yes Man* becomes less a story and more a collection of set-pieces. *(12/19/2008)* *– Theresa Everline*

★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

(Chime in the conversation at **austinchronicle.com/pip**.)

To find out which film *the Chronicle* reviewers chose as their **No. 1 film of 2008**, turn to p.45

6 CRITICS' CHOICE AWARD NOMINATIONS INCLUDING BEST PICTURE



AMC **BARTON CREEK** 2901 Capitol of Texas Hwy. 306-9190
ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE **SOUTH LAMAR** 1120 South Lamar 476-1320
CINEMARK **TINSELTOWN PFLUGERVILLE** I-35 N. @ FM 1825 800-FANDANGO (1159)
REGAL CINEMAS **ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS** Jollyville Rd. N of Great Hills 1-800-FANDANGO X684
REGAL CINEMAS **METROPOLITAN STADIUM 14** I-35 at Stassney Lane 800-FANDANGO (368)

CALL THEATRE FOR SHOWTIMES.



Volunteers earn perks to attend SXSW

Sign up now at **http://volunteer.sxsw.com** and attend one of the 2009 Volunteer Calls.

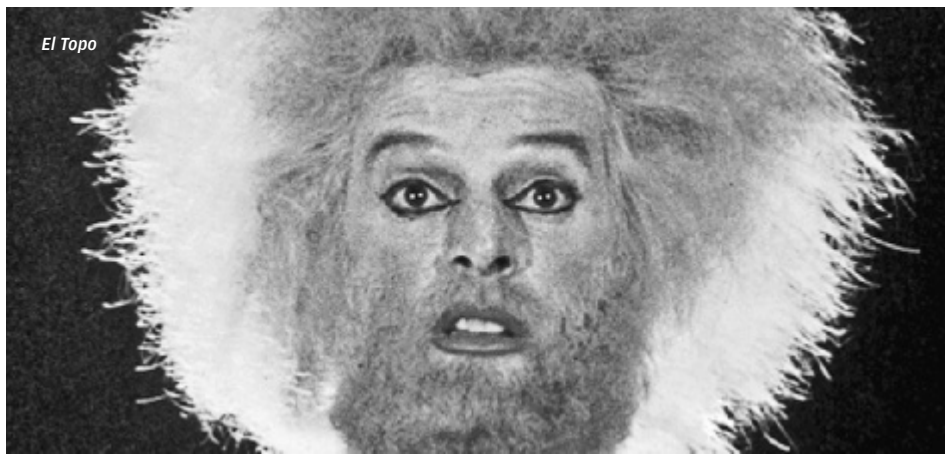
Email **volunteer@sxsw.com** for more info.

SXSW Volunteer Call 2009
Sunday, January 25th, 2:00-5:00pm
Monday, January 26th, 6:00-9:00pm
Hilton Hotel, 500 E 4th St
Governor's Ballroom, 4th Floor

special *screenings*

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: **austinchronicle.com/film**.


El Topo

TUESDAY 30

***Beerfest* With Beerlympics (2006)** *D: Jay Chandrasekhar; with Chandrasekhar, Will Forte, Kevin Heffernan, Cloris Leachman, Steve Lemme, Mo'Nique, Eric Christian Olsen, Paul Soter, Erik Stolhanske. (R, 110 min.)* **High for the Holidays.** Before Broken Lizard's comedy film about the underground world of competitive beer drinking, there will be live Beerlympics games to get your juices flowing. @Alamo Ritz, 10:15pm.

Dark Side of the Rainbow: *The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon* *D: Victor Fleming; with Judy Garland, Margaret Hamilton. (G, 101 min.)* **High for the Holidays.** Is there really a synchronicity between Hollywood's beloved *The Wizard of Oz* and Pink Floyd's 1973 musical opus, *Dark Side of the Moon*? Find out for yourself at this synced-up saunter to the dark side of the rainbow. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm.

WEDNESDAY 31

***After the Thin Man* New Year's Eve Feast (1936)** *D: W.S. Van Dyke; with William Powell, Myrna Loy. (NR, 117 min.)* **Feast.** There were six *Thin Man* movies in all, but this first sequel has the most spark and plausibility. Here's to our all-time favorite threesome: Nick, Nora, and Asta. Each food course will be paired with libations. @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm.

Henri's Rockin' New Year's Eve Sing-Along A mix of the top music videos of the year and tunes from the past year's sing-alongs. Ticket includes Champagne for a midnight toast. @Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm.

THURSDAY 01

***The Big Lebowski* (1998)** *D: Joel Coen; with Jeff Bridges, Sam Elliott, John Goodman, Ben Gazzara, Jon Polito, Tara Reid, Steve Buscemi, John Turturro, David Huddleston, Philip Seymour Hoffman. (R, 117 min.)* **High for the Holidays.** A case of mistaken identity embroils the supremely go-with-the-flow character of the Dude (Bridges) in an intersecting mix of kidnapping, pornography, German nihilists, sultry women, gumshoes, missing money, and missing toes. White Russians on tap. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7:30, 10:20pm.

***El Topo* (1970)** *D: Alejandro Jodorowsky; with Alejandro Jodorowsky, Brontis Jodorowsky, Mara Lorenzio. (NR, 125 min.)* **Cult Thursday.** One of the first midnight cult movies, *El Topo* is a perfect choice to kick off the Lake Creek's new weekly cult-movie series. Spanish filmmaker Alejandro Jodorowsky plays the title character, and, fittingly, his son plays his son in this strange Western about life, death, sex, and religion. Exactly what the movie is saying remains obscure to many, but its images remain majestic and unforgettable. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

FRIDAY 02

***The Big Lebowski* (1998)** @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm. (See Thu., 1/1.)

Dark Side of the Rainbow: *The Wizard of Oz* With *Dark Side of the Moon* @Alamo Ritz, 10:20pm. (See Tue., 12/30.)

SATURDAY 03

***The Big Lebowski* (1998)** @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm. (See Thu., 1/1.)

***Escape From New York* (1981)** See p.70.

***Marley & Me* (sensory friendly) (2008)** *D: David Frankel; with Owen Wilson, Jennifer Aniston. (PG, 111 min.)* **Autism Society of America.** At these screenings, families affected by autism have a special opportunity to enjoy films in a safe and accepting environment on a monthly basis. The auditorium will have its lights brought up and the sound turned down. Additionally, audience members are welcome to get up and move about during the screening and to bring along special-diet snacks. For more details, see **www.austinautismsociety.org**. @Barton Creek Square, 10am; $5.

***The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (1975)** *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see **www.austinrocky.org**. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash '09 *(NR)* A new volume of the Alamo's annual compilation of mind-boggling insanity and weirdness from Japanese television. @Alamo Ritz, 10:25pm.

SUNDAY 04

***Escape From New York* (1981)** @Alamo Ritz, 10pm. See p.70.

***King* (2008)** *D: Srinu Vytla; with Nagarjuna Akkineni, Brahmanandam, Trisha Krishnan. (NR, 178 min.)* Telegu-language film from India centers on palace intrigue. (*) @Tinseltown South, 2, 5:30pm.

***Trinidad* (2008)** See p.72.

MONDAY 05

***Escape From New York* (1981)** @Alamo Ritz, 7:20pm. See p.70.

***Gossip Girl* TV at the Alamo.** @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7:15pm.

Soul Night *D: Various. (NR)* **Music Monday.** Guest curator and host Peter Lucas has culled classic and rare performance footage of James Brown, Joe Tex, Lee Dorsey, Arthur Conley, Etta James, Otis Redding, Sam & Dave, Stevie Wonder, Ray Charles, Ike & Tina Turner, and others. @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm; $2.

TUESDAY 06

***Howling II* (1985)** See p.70.

***Mean Girls* (2004)** *D: Mark Waters; with Lindsay Lohan, Rachel McAdams, Tina Fey, Tim Meadows, Amy Poehler, Lacey Chabert, Ana Gasteyer, Amanda Seyfried, Jonathan Bennett. (PG-13, 97 min.)* **Girlie Night.** Clique comedy about teen groupthink. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7:20pm.

WEDNESDAY 07

***Chained Heat* (1983)** *D: Paul Nicolas; with Edy Williams, Henry Silva, Stella Stevens, Tamara Dobson, Sybil Danning, John Vernon, Linda Blair. (R, 95 min.)* **Weird Wednesday: Sybil Danning Live.** A classic women-in-prison exploitation complete with catfights, steamy shower scenes, and Blair. Star Sybil Danning will be in attendance. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; $5 seat reservation at **www.originalalamo.com**.

***Escape From New York* (1981)** @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm. (See Sat., 1/3.)

***Thaïs* (2008)** *(NR, 201 min.)* **Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD: Encore Presentation.** Renée Fleming stars in the title role with Thomas Hampson in John Cox's new production of Jules Massenet's opera. Jesús López-Cobos conducts. @CM Cedar Park, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Hill Country Galleria, Southpark Meadows, 7pm.

***24* TV @ the Alamo.** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

THURSDAY 08

***The Amazing Mr. No Legs* (1981)** *D: Ricou Browning; with Richard Jaeckel, Ron Slinker, Lloyd Bochner, Joie Chitwood, John Agar.* **Cult Thursday.** Weird crime drama directed by the Olympic swimmer best known as the man inside the suit of the Creature From the Black Lagoon. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

Elvis Presley's Birthday Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Pop Princess Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm.

imax

***All Access: Front Row. Backstage. Live!* (2001)** *D: Martyn Atkins. (NR, 65 min.)* This behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of putting on a megaconcert combines candid moments backstage with musical performances by multi-Grammy Award-winning rock stars such as Santana, Sting, Sheryl Crow, the Dave Matthews Band, and appearances by Al Green, George Clinton, B.B. King, Moby, Rob Thomas, Mary J. Blige, Kid Rock, Macy Gray, the Roots, Trey Anastasio, and Cheb Mami. Mon.-Thu. (1/8), 5, 7:30pm.

***Grand Canyon Adventure 3D: River at Risk* (2008)** *D: Greg MacGillivray; narrated by Robert Redford. (NR, 40 min.)* The river at risk is the Colorado. Water-conservation advocate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. joins ethnobotanist and author Wade Davis and their 18-year-old daughters for a rafting trip down the river to the parched Colorado delta. Tue.-Wed., noon, 4pm; Fri.-Sat., noon, 4pm; Sun., 4pm; Mon.-Thu. (1/8), noon, 3pm.

***Texas: The Big Picture* (2003)** *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Tue.-Wed., 10am; Fri.-Sun., 10am; Mon.-Thu. (1/8), 10am, 1pm.

***The Light Before Christmas* (2008)** *D: Nathan Smith and Christopher Robin Miller; with the voices of Miller, Brock Holman, Ruby Chase O'Neil, Ken Sansom. (NR, 34 min.)* In this animated film, two children are rescued by an old sage who imparts wisdom, hot chocolate, and stories. *Last day: Sun., Jan. 4.* Tue.-Wed., 11am, 1, 3, 5, 7, 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am, 1, 3, 5, 7, 8pm; Sun., 1, 3, 7, 8pm.

***U2 3D* (2008)** *D: Mark Pellington and Catherine Owens. (G, 85 min.)* In 3-D and on the IMAX screen, these Irish rockers really rattle and hum. *Last day: Sat., Jan. 3.* (*) Fri.-Sat., 9pm.

***Wild Ocean 3D* (2008)** *D: Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas. (NR, 40 min.)* Filmed off the coast of South Africa, this film examines the food chain, starting with the sardine runs, which are followed by dolphins, sharks, birds, humans, and other fish that opportunistically follow the migration. Tue.-Wed., 2, 6pm; Fri.-Sun., 2, 6pm; Mon.-Thu. (1/8), 11am, 2, 4, 6:30pm.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 16 issue is Monday, Jan. 5**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): **specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com**;
Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

offscreen

501 Studios: Soundstage + HD Theatre 501 Studios' soundstage in Downtown Austin now doubles as one of Texas' largest public theatres – with a Sony Qualia HD projector, a 28-foot screen, 180 (removable) seats, a vintage popcorn machine, and affordable rates. Need a venue for premieres, wrap parties, or concerts/plays/performances featuring projection? This could be the place. Also still available as a soundstage/green screen.

Career-Building Classes From Austin School of Film An excellent slate of adult classes is available for your cinematic advancement at the Austin School of Film. Also, you can become an **Apple Pro Certified Final Cut Pro** user. Tech up, cineastes. See website for details. **www.austinfilmschool.org/classes**.

Cine las Americas International Film Festival: Call for Entries The festival showcases contemporary films from North, Central, and South America; the Caribbean; and Spain. Works made by or about Latinos and native groups of the Americas are eligible to participate. The festival grants Jury Awards in the categories of First or Second Dramatic Feature, Documentary Feature, Dramatic Short Film, Documentary Short Film, and Youth Film. Audience Awards are also presented for Best Documentary Feature and Best Dramatic Feature. See website for details. Deadline ($20 fee): *Jan. 30*. Deadline ($40 fee): *Feb. 12*. **www.cinelasamericas.org**.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, which is available to the public on a rental basis. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, and a surround-sound system and supports Super-35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. It also has a "break room" suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. *322-0145.* **www.austinstudios.org**.

The Screenplay Workshop: Winter Registration All classes are taught by professional screenwriters and meet in Central Austin. **Screenwriting Fundamentals** *Tuesdays, 7-9:30pm, Jan. 27-Feb. 24. $250 ($235, if registered by Jan. 13).* **Screenwriting Master Class** *Tuesdays, 7-9:30pm, Jan. 27-March 31. $450 ($425, if registered by Jan. 13).* Also, private instruction and story consultation packages, *7 hours of instruction, $390*. See website for more options. **www.thescreenplayworkshop.org**.

WINNER ★ BEST PICTURE

NEW YORK FILM CRITICS CIRCLE ★ SAN FRANCISCO FILM CRITICS CIRCLE ★ SOUTHEASTERN FILM CRITICS ASSOCIATION

"THE YEAR'S BEST PICTURE IS AN AMERICAN CLASSIC!"
PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE



8 CRITICS' CHOICE AWARD NOMINATIONS INCLUDING BEST PICTURE

3 SCREEN ACTORS GUILD NOMINATIONS INCLUDING BEST CAST

SEAN PENN
MILK

EMILE HIRSCH JOSH BROLIN
DIEGO LUNA AND JAMES FRANCO
WRITTEN BY DUSTIN LANCE BLACK
AND DIRECTED BY GUS VAN SANT

NEVER BLEND IN Groundswell Productions FOCUS FEATURES
www.milkthemovie.com

BASED ON THE TRUE STORY

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema **ALAMO AT THE RITZ** 320 E 6th St 512/476-1320
Regal Cinemas **ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS** Jollyville Rd N Of Great Hills 800/FANDANGO #684
AMC **BARTON CREEK SQUARE 14** 2901 Capital of Texas Hwy 512/306-9190
Regal Cinemas **WESTGATE STADIUM 11** S Lamar & Ben White 800/FANDANGO #369

CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORIES OR CALL FOR SOUND INFORMATION AND SHOWTIMES
SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED

GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD NOMINEE BEST ACTOR SEAN PENN (DRAMA)

MOBILE USERS: For Showtimes – Text MILK with your ZIP CODE to 43KIX (43549)

OPEN CALL for SXSW 2009 CASHIERS

SXSW '09 music

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17th
Hilton Hotel Downtown, Room 602 (5-6pm)

We need paid cashiers to work at venues during the SXSW Music Festival (March 18-21). Please bring a resume and a photo ID with you to the open call. Get paid, hear music and have fun at SXSW this year!

For more information and to apply, visit http://sxsw.com/cashiers or email tami@sxsw.com



THIS HOLIDAY SEASON GIVE YOURSELF THE GIFT OF

LOVE

with a turn on to Lovers Lane, the Chronicle's online dating community for Chronicle readers just like you. On Lovers Lane you can read profiles, look at pictures, and listen to voice greetings – absolutely free. You can also place your own profile, upload pictures, video, and record a voice greeting for free.

Opal Divine's AUSTIN GRILL
Freehouse · Penn Field · Marina

Place a profile with a photo by 5pm, Monday, January 4, and you'll be entered to win $100 worth of GIFT CARDS from OPAL DIVINE'S!

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com

austinchronicle.com/loverslane

Special **ADVANCE** Screening
Tuesday, January 6, 7:30pm

To sign up for a chance to win a pass to this screening, go to **austinchronicle.com/contests** by Sunday, January 4.

No purchase necessary. Passes are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating is limited. Passes do not guarantee admission.

R RESTRICTED UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN
LANGUAGE THROUGHOUT AND SOME VIOLENCE



Opens In Theaters Friday, January 9.

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com

music listings

EDITED BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

TODD V. WOLFSON



Black Joe Lewis

New Year's Eve!

All over town, Wednesday 31

Even though New Year's Eve sits right on Hump Day this year, there's no reason to not to party like it's almost 2009. There are send-offs from those who had pretty big years: **Black Joe Lewis & the Honey Bears** (Stubb's), **Grupo Fantasma** (Parish), and the **Gourds**' Masquerade Ball (Waterford House). There's the carousel of good local throwdowns, such as **Foot Patrol**'s funky Prince Nite at the Scoot Inn; Flamingo Cantina's annual Reggae Ball with **Grimy Styles**; **T-Bird & the Breaks**' soul glow at Emo's; the **Strange Boys**, **Dans la Lune**, the **Ugly Beats**, **Boxing Lesson**, and the **Petals**' dance party at Beauty Bar; **Alvin Crow**'s fiddle frenzy at the Broken Spoke; and the psych-out of **Strange Attractors**, **Wine & Revolution**, and **Toko-Ri Get High** at Spider House. Amped-up out-of-towners **Speedealer** clean up at Red 7, and the **Rev. Horton Heat** leaves an oil slick at La Zona Rosa. It's all a blur, kind of like 2008. *– Audra Schroeder*

EMO'S FREE WEEK

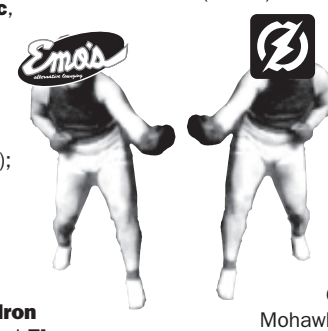
Friday 2-Thursday 8

What would the fresh new year be without Emo's Free Week? The venerable Austin venue has ordered up a meaty portion of local talent, starting Friday with weird-poppers **Pataphysics**, **Silver Pines**, **J.C. & Co.**, and **School Police** inside, balanced with the louder tones of the **Lemurs**, **Ringo Deathstarr**, and more outside. Saturday, wear stretchable fabrics for the hip-shaking jive of the **Ugly Beats**, **Jungle Rockers**, **Amplified Heat**, and **Dans la Lune**. If you're feeling more inclined to lounge, **What Made Milwaukee Famous**, **Oh No! Oh My!**, the **Pons**, and more pop the cork outside. Psych gets its night Sunday with the **Tunnels**, **Christian Bland**, **Elvis**, and **Woven Bones** outside and the **Always Already**, **Haunting Oboe Music**, and **Prayer for Animals** inside. The rest of the week promises even more aural insanity: **Zookeeper**, **Booher & the Turkeys**, **Frank Smith**, **Abby Birds**, **Stereo Is a Lie** (Monday); **High Watt Crucifixers**, **Black Earth**, **Full Stride**, **Moonlight Towers**, **Gleeson** (Tuesday); **When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth**, the **Diagonals**, **Eagle Claw**, **My Education**, **Unit 21**, **Iron Age**, the **Altars** (Wednesday); and **El Paso Hot Button**, **Harlem**, **Ume**, **Broken Gold**, and many more on Thursday. Visit **www.emosaustin.com** for full lineups. *– Audra Schroeder*

TRANSMISSION ENTERTAINMENT'S FREE WEEK

Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville, Friday 2-Thursday 8

Aaaaand in this corner, the inaugural year of Transmission Entertainment's multiclub Free Week, because, ya know, the economy and all. Friday at Mohawk, **Low Line Caller** and **Calm Blue Sea** perfect the art of tension and release, Club de Ville houses the dulcet tones of the **Alice Rose** and **Midgetmen**, and Red 7 brings the noise with **Summer of Blood**, the **Ends**, **Deadly Companions**, **Capital Scam**, **Blank Generation**, and more. Saturday sees the return of the **Riverboat Gamblers** at Mohawk, plus **Til We're Blue or Destroy** at de Ville, and **Black Panda** at Red 7. The Sabbath offers service with **Serious Tracers**, **Follow That Bird!**, and **Butcher Bear's Rainbow Bus Band** at Mohawk and **Los Hispanos UK** and more at Red 7. The transmissions continue Monday with **Bridge Farmers** (Mohawk) and **Fire From the Gods** (Red 7). Tuesday 'verbs out with **Frantic Clam** and **Baby Robots** (Mohawk) and goes to 11 with the **Roller**, **Scorpion Child**, and more (Red 7). Wednesday gets fogged out with **Tia Carrera** and **Strange Attractors** at Mohawk, and Thursday goes apeshit with Houston's **Homopolice** and locals **Air Traffic Controllers** at Mohawk, **Loxsly** at de Ville, and more hardcore at Red 7. Stay free, y'all, and visit **www.transmissionentertainment.com/event/free_week** for more. *– Audra Schroeder*



INGEBRIGT HAAKER FLATEN

Salvage Vanguard Theater, Friday 2

Norway's jazzbos the Thing just swept through town for Ruby's 20th anniversary soiree, and now their double-bass player, Ingebrigt Haaker Flaten, returns for more thumping. NYC trumpeter Jawwaad Taylor, Houston trombonist Dave Dove, and local percussionist Chris Cogburn join in for a night of rhythmic convergence. Local clarinetist Jon Doyle opens. *– Audra Schroeder*

TINY VIPERS

Stubb's, Saturday 3

Under the guise of Tiny Vipers, Seattle-based songstress Jesy Fortino spins dark folk narratives that wander down paths less taken. Her haunting 2007 Sub Pop debut, *Hands Across the Void*, sounds like campfire tales of distance and clime. Expect local instrumentalists Balmorhea to preview material from forthcoming third LP *All Is Wild, All Is Silent*, which features vocal contributions from Fortino. The Places' Amy Annelle and Ralph White cull kindred spirits as Precious Blood. Free. *– Austin Powell*

BLACKIE

The Parlor, Monday 5

Houston's known for its hip-hop, especially of the screwed and chopped variety, but Blackie (Michael LaCour) prefers the stomped and cracked variety. His latest, *Wilderness of North America*, incorporates samples, electronics, and spine-rattling bass, his flow hard and hustled. In the confines of the Parlor, expect some harsh vibrations. Local psych-rock duo Magic Jewels open. *– Audra Schroeder*

Visit **austinchronicle.com/thelineup** *for music.*

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER soundcheck

BRAZOS, HARLEM, CANOPY
Lamberts, Friday 2
One-word bands with multiple personalities.

CHLOE DAY
Elysium, Friday 2
Synth-pop from 1983, thirsty for blood. Local electro-mistress Gfire opens.

THE DEAF EARS/THE ARCHIBALDS
Hole in the Wall, Friday 2/Saturday 3
The Hole carves out its own free week(end) with some sharp alt.country. Jude/Ross and San Saba County accompany Friday; Leatherbag strums Saturday.

LI'L CAP'N TRAVIS, PINK NASTY
Continental Club, Saturday 3
The boys are back in action, with Ms. Nasty debuting new tunes.

TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA
Frank Erwin Center, Sunday 4
Pomp, circumstance, lasers.

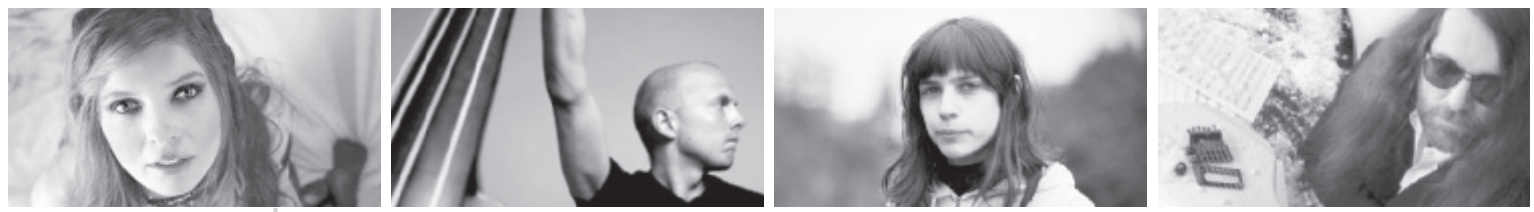
THE HEAT MACHINE
Flamingo Cantina, Wednesday 7
Clueless meets ska.

PATRICE PIKE, JOY DAVIS
Saxon Pub, Thursday 8
Ladies of the night strum and twang.

live music venues p.78 ● **roadshows + club listings** p.80

in-stores

Tuesday: The **Gourds**, Waterloo Records, 5pm; **Video Disease**, **White Dog**, **Naw Dude**, **Time Bombs**, **Dry Heaves**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 6pm



L - R: CHLOE DAY (FRI., 1/2) | INGEBRIGT HAAKER FLATEN (FRI., 1/2) | TINY VIPERS (SAT., 1/3) | TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA (SUN., 1/4)

EARACHE! *2009* and feelin' fine at **austinchronicle.com/earache**. Hear the music of Free Week at **austinchronicle.com/thelineup**.

The Continental Club

IT'S ALL AT... CONTINENTALCLUB.COM

THUR JAN 1
NO HAPPY HOUR
DOORS AT 9PM
11:30PM
HONKY
10PM
TADDY PORTER

FRIDAY JAN 2
H. H. THE LEGENDARY
BLUES SPECIALISTS
12AM
THE DERAILERS
two Hoots AND A HOLLER
10PM

SATURDAY JAN 3
MATINEE 3-7PM
REDD VOLKAERT
10PM
Li'l Cap'n Travis
12:15AM
PINK NASTY
10:45PM
9:30PM no show ponies
SUNDAY JAN 4
10PM
HEYBALE
W/ REDD VOLKAERT
AND EARL POOLE BALL

MONDAY JAN 5
HAPPY HOUR MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND
JAMES HAND

TUESDAY JAN 6
HAPPY HOUR 6:30
PLANET CASPER
WITH SCRAPPY, ROSIE F. AND SARAH B.
10PM
david garza

WEDNESDAY JAN 7
HAPPY HOUR HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN
JAMES McMURTRY
10PM
JON DEE GRAHAM

THURSDAY JAN 8
HAPPY HOUR WOODSBOSS
11:30PM TOM GILLIAM
10PM KATHLEEN EDWARDS

FRIDAY JAN 9
H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
12AM
CEDRIC BURNSIDE & LIGHTNIN' MALCOLM

SATURDAY JAN 10
NO MATINEE TODAY
10PM GRAHAM WILKINSON
TRIBUTE TO THE KING
SHAUN YOUNG'S NEW BLUE MOON BOYS AND TED RODDY'S KING CONJURE ORCHESTRA
TWO BIG SHOWS
EARLY SHOW DOORS @ 6:30, SHOW @7PM
LATE SHOW DOORS @10, SHOW @ 10:30PM

COMING SOON
1/13 6:30PM TONI PRICE
1/16 WHITE GHOST SHIVERS

1315 S. CONGRESS • OPEN: TUES.- FRI. 4PM • SAT. 3PM • SUN. 9PM • 441-2444

THREADGILL'S South

World HQTs.
301 W. Riverside Dr.
512.472.9304

Sunday 1/4
Gospel Brunch with Gospel Silvertones
11:00am Indoors/Free

Happy New Year! Both locations open on New Years Day!

THREADGILL'S 1981
North
Old No. 1
6416 N. Lamar Blvd.
512.451.5440

Sunday 1/4
Bluegrass Brunch with The Sieker Band
11:00am Indoors/Free

www.threadgills.com

LOVEJOYS
TAP ROOM & BREWERY

604 NECHES
(512) 477.1268

Celebrate New Year's Eve at Lovejoys w/ DJs, a free buffet and a champagne toast at midnight. No Cover.
No Reservations Necessary.

the Hole in the Wall
ARCADE RESTAURANT
34 YEARS OF ROCKING AUSTIN
2538 GUADALUPE

TUESDAY DECEMBER 30TH...
THE BREAD,
BRIDGE FARMERS
BEST LOVE IN TOWN.
& ROGER WALLACE 9PM

HAPPY HOUR:
THE TX MAVERICKS W/ ALVIN CROWE 7PM.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31ST.
NEW YEARS EVE PARTY!
SCOTT BIRAM
JOHNNY HOOTROCK
ROCKABETTY BURLESQUE REVUE,
POLLY WANTS A POPGUN
$15 COVER
FREE CHAMPAGNE TOAST & BARBEQUE!
DOORS AT 9PM

THURSDAY JANUARY 1ST...
TIME OUT 10PM
BROOKS BRANNON 8PM
OUTSIDE: BILLY DAVE WAMMO 9-11PM
NEEDLES AND PINS "RECORD PARTY"
HOSTED BY ANGEL VON RIPPER 11PM

FRIDAY JANUARY 2ND...
FREE SHOW: THE DEAF EARS,
JUDE/ROSS, & SAN SABA COUNTY 10PM
HAPPY HOUR: THE SPOOLY SHOW
FEATURING RAMSAY MIDWOOD, RANDY WEEKS, MIKE NICOLAI AND FREINDS 7PM

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD...
FREE SHOW: THE ARCHIBALDS,
QUIET LIFE (CT),
& LEATHERBAG 10PM

SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH...
SLOWTRAIN, NATHAN SINGLETON,
& MRS. GLASS 9PM

MONDAY JANUARY 5TH...
LEO RONDEAU
THE SHAKE EM UPS
& CLAIRE SMALL 9PM

TUESDAY JANUARY 6TH...
CLYDE & CLEMS WHISKEY BUSINESS
& ROGER WALLACE 9PM

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7TH...
JWW & THE PROSPECTORS,
CHADD THOMAS & THE CRAZY KINGS,
DARREN HOFF & THE HARD TIMES 10PM

THURSDAY JANUARY 8TH...
THE BELLFURIES,
THE THUNDERCHIEFS,
& SUEDE UPPERS 10PM
OUTSIDE: NEEDLES AND PINS
"RECORD PARTY" HOSTED BY
ANGEL VON RIPPER 11PM

FRIDAY JANUARY 9TH...
FREE SHOW: ZEST OF YORE,
THE NASTY CLAN,
& THE LUSITANIA 10PM

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH...
FREE SHOW: THE BREAD,
THE VAN BUREN BOYS,
BRIDGE FARMERS,
& CLYDE AND CLEMS WHISKEY BUSINESS 10PM

ALL SHOWS THIS WEEK ARE FREE!!!
21 & UP ONLY

Nuno's Bar and Grill
North Location 512-837-6866 Mopac at Parmer Ln.

Dec 31 New Years Eve
Malford Milligan
featuring Greg Koch Band 11pm



Malford is moving to Milwaukee
Don't miss his last Austin Show
Clay Jeffrey Band 8pm
Doors open at 6pm
$20 Tickets on sale now
Free Champagne at Midnight
Great Food & Drink Specials

Nuno's on Sixth
Downtown Location 512-833-5133 422 E. Sixth

New Years Eve
Free Champagne at Midnight
JT COLDFIRE
10-2am
with Franklin's Blues Band 8pm
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30
$10 Cover



Live Blues 7 days week
www.myspace.com/nunosonmopac
www.myspace.com/nunosonsixth



WED, DEC 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE
ALVIN CROW
TICKETS ON SALE DEC 2 AT BAR
THU, JAN 1 CLOSED - HAPPY NEW YEAR 2009
FRI, JAN 2 CORNELL HURD
SAT, JAN 3 BRUCE ROBISON
DANCE LESSONS 8-9PM



COPA BAR - TICKETS at 512 479-5002
217 Congress Ave. | CopaBarAndGrill.Com

LIVE MUSIC @ Central Market

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 6:30 - 9 PM
SUNDAY 12:30 - 3 PM
@ CENTRAL PARK
40th and North Lamar
call 512.206.1000 for details
@ WESTGATE
4477 South Lamar
call 512.899.4300 for details
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 6:30 - 9 PM
SUNDAY 12:30 - 3 PM



FRIDAY, JANUARY 2
HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN
hot jazz, texas fiddle
THURSDAY, JANUARY 1
DANNY BRITT
texas troubadour
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3
SUZANNA CHOFFEL
soulful grooves
SUNDAY, JANUARY 4
THE LUCKY STRIKES
jazz
SUNDAY, JANUARY 4
JITTERBUG VIPERS
hot jazz
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7
COMBO MAHALO
hawaiian
FRIDAY, JANUARY 9
FLOYD DOMINO
boogie woogie stride piano
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
JUST DESSERTS
world music

upcoming at central park:
JAN 10 - WENDY COLONNA
JAN 11 - RIDGETOP SYNCOPATORS
JAN 16 - LOST & NAMELESS ORCHESTRA
JAN 17 - EL TULE
JAN 18 - SUSANNA SHARP
JAN 23 - CIENFUEGOS

upcoming at westgate:
JAN 11 - ACOUSTIC JUNGLE
JAN 14 - TX EASTSIDE KINGS
JAN 15 - JIMI LEE BAND
JAN 18 - MANTECA BEAT
JAN 21 - BOXCAR PREACHERS
JAN 22 - JEAN SYNODINOS

café open 7am–9pm sunday–thursday; 7am–10pm friday & saturday at both locations.
FREE MUSIC, GREAT FOOD, COVERED PATIO & KIDS PLAYSCAPE

live music *venues*

311 CLUB, 311 E. Sixth, 477-1630
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR, 3600 Presidential, 530-ABIA (2242)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR, 3600 Presidential, 530-ABIA (2242)
ACES LOUNGE, 222 E. Sixth, 477-2237
AMSTERDAM CAFE, 121 W. Eighth, 236-1606
ANDERSON MILL TAVERN, 10401 Anderson Mill, 293-5563
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE, 21815 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-3777
ANTONE'S, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424
ARTZ RIB HOUSE, 2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283
AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074
AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735, 2103 E.M. Franklin, 926-0043
AUSTIN'S PIZZA, 1817 S. Lamar, 795-8888
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB, 204 E. Sixth, 494-1335
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER, 1008 Water St., Bastrop, 512/321-7907
BB ROVERS, 12636 Research Ste. B-101, 335-9504
BEAUTY BAR, 617 E. Seventh, 391-1943
BEERLAND, 711 Red River, 479-ROCK (7625)
THE BELMONT, 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300
BOTTICELLI'S, 1321 S. Congress, 916-1315
'BOUT TIME, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339
BROKEN SPOKE, 3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189
THE BROWN BAR, 201 W. Eighth, 480-8330
CACTUS CAFE, Texas Union, UT campus, 475-6515
CAFE MUNDI, 1704 E. Fifth, 236-8634
THE CANARY ROOST, 11900 Metric, 836-6360
CAROUSEL LOUNGE, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790
CEDAR STREET, 208 W. Fourth, 495-9669
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE, 119 Cheatham, San Marcos, 512/353-3777
CHESTER'S ICE HOUSE, 9611 McNeil, 836-0558
CHEZ ZEE, 5406 Balcones, 454-2666
CLUB DE VILLE, 900 Red River, 457-0900
THE COCKPIT, 113 San Jacinto, 457-8010
CONTINENTAL CLUB, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444
COOL RIVER CAFE, 4001 Parmer, 835-0010
COPA BAR & GRILL, 217 Congress, 479-5002
CORK & CO., 308 Congress, 474-2675
COTTON CLUB, 212 E. Davilla, Granger, 512/859-0700
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE, 606 E. Seventh, 480-5988
CUBA LIBRE, 409 Colorado, 472-2822
DARWIN'S PUB, 223 E. Sixth, 474-7399
DONN'S DEPOT, 1600 W. Fifth, 478-0336
THE DRISKILL HOTEL, 604 Brazos, 474-5911
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE, 301 E. Fifth, 472-1860
EL SOL Y LA LUNA, 1224 S. Congress, 444-7770
ELEPHANT ROOM, 315 Congress, 473-2279
ELYSIUM, 705 Red River, 478-2979
EMO'S, 603 Red River, 477-3667
EVANGELINE CAFE, 8106 Brodie, 282-2586
FADÓ, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172
FLAMINGO CANTINA, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE, 4600 Guadalupe, 380-0097
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE, 1601 Barton Springs Rd., 480-8646
FRANK ERWIN CENTER, 1701 Red River, 471-7744
FRIENDS, 208 E. Sixth, 320-8193
GARRISON PARK HARBOR, 730 W. Stassney #120, 462-2664
GIDDY UPS, 12010 Manchaca, 280-4732
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON, 5434 Burnet Rd., 458-1813
GREEN PASTURES, 811 W. Live Oak, 444-4747
GRUENE HALL, 1281 Gruene Rd., New Braunfels, 830/606-1281, 830/629-5077
GÜERO'S TACO BAR, 1412 S. Congress, 447-7688
HANOVER'S, 108 E. Main, Pflugerville, 512/670-9617
HEADHUNTERS, 720 Red River, 236-0188
HILL'S CAFE, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300
HOLE IN THE WALL, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747
HOUSE WINE, 408 Josephine, 322-5210
IGUANA GRILL, 2900 RR 620 N., 266-8439
JO'S COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800
JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 447-7825
KEY BAR, 617 W. Sixth, 236-9389
LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290 E., 459-8729
LA ZONA ROSA, 612 W. Fourth, 263-4146
LAMBERTS, 401 W. Second, 494-1500
LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889
LATITUDE 30, 512 San Jacinto, 472-3335
THE LOADING DOCK, 708 S. Austin St., Georgetown, 512/864-2100
LOUIE'S 106, 106 E. Sixth, 476-1997
LOVEJOYS, 604 Neches, 477-1268
LUCKY LOUNGE, 209-A W. Fifth, 479-7700
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 512/558-7399
MAGGIE MAE'S, 323 E. Sixth, 478-8541
MANSION AT JUDGES' HILL, 1900 Rio Grande, 495-1800
MANUELS, 310 Congress, 472-7555
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261
MEAN-EYED CAT, 1621 W. Fifth, 472-6326
MEMORY LANE EVENT CENTER, 403 KC Memory Ln., Dripping Springs, 512/894-0700
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL, 14106 N. I-35, 674-0404
MOHAWK, 912 Red River, 482-8404
MOMO'S, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
MOONRIVER, 2002 N. Pace Bend Rd., Spicewood, 512/264-2064
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN, 4215 Duval St., 451-3994
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900
MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305
NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349
NUEVO LEÓN, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
NUNO'S ON SIXTH, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133
NUTTY BROWN CAFE, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 301-4648
ONE 2 ONE BAR, 121 E. Fifth, 473-0121
PALMER EVENTS CENTER, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 404-4500
THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 479-0474
THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965
PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663
THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS, 18200 Lakepoint Cove, Point Venture, 512/267-1845
PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Hwy. 183 N., 335-5115
RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100
RED EYED FLY, 715 Red River, 474-1084
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder, Round Rock, 512/218-0813
ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083
SÃO PAULO'S, 2809 San Jacinto, 473-9988
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200
SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT, 7010 Hwy. 71 W. #180, 579-0726
SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL, 9012 Research Ste. C-1, 380-9443
SHINER'S SALOON, 422 Congress Ste. D, 448-4600
SNAKE EYES VINYL, 1101 Navasota, 600-6950
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE, 2908 Fruth, 480-9562
STARDUST CLUB, 11940 Manchaca, 280-8590
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THINGS CELTIC, 1806 W. 35th, 472-2358
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College Ave., 443-4200
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TRIUMPH CAFE, 3808 Spicewood Springs Rd., 343-1875
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 902-5057
THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil Dr., 331-9831
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 360, 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 418-9700
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE AT THE GROVE, 9600 S. I-35 Ste. D-100 (Southpark Meadows), 292-7900
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE DOWNTOWN, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SLAUGHTER LANE, 9600 Escarpment Blvd., 301-1007
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

FROM TEXAS' OLDEST INDEPENDENT BREWERY



SPOETZL

SHINER TOP TEN TEXAS ARTISTS

WATERLOO

1) LUCINDA WILLIAMS
Little Honey

2) ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO
Real Animal

3) GRUPO FANTASMA
Sonidos Gold

4) JOE ELY
Live Chicago 1987

5) VARIOUS ARTISTS
Happy Holidays from Austin 2008

6) CAROLYN WONDERLAND
Miss Understood

7) HAYES CARLL
Trouble in Mind

8) TODD SNIDER
Peace Queer

9) RODNEY CROWELL
Sex & Gasoline

10) OKKERVIL RIVER
Stand Ins

©2008 SPOETZL BREWERY, SHINER, TX 77984

Shiner
THERE'S Nothing FINER!

SIXTH STREET MAGGIE MAE'S AUSTIN TEXAS

MAGGIE MAE'S NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

CELEBRATE ON THE BIGGEST DECK ON SIXTH ST.! DOORS OPEN @7PM. MINIMAL COVER AFTER 8PM.
COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE @ MIDNIGHT & FREE PARTY FAVORS

3 DJ'S 3 DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES

DJ DOC
(DOWNSTAIRS CLUBROOM & COURTYARD)

DJ DIAMOND TIP
(UPSTAIRS DECK)

DJ FUNDAMENTAL
(VIP SECTION-GIBSON LOUNGE & LES PAUL ROOM)

BOTTLE SERVICE & VIP SEATING ARE AVAILABLE IN OUR NEW GIBSON LOUNGE! TO RESERVE A TABLE PLEASE CONTACT:
GUY 745.9282 - LINDA 828.1664

www.maggiemaesaustin.com
SIXTH STREET
478.8541

TUESDAY 12/30
GET READY FOR
NEW YEARS EVE
BOOK YOUR TABLE AT MAGGIE MAES!

THURSDAY 1/1
DIAMOND TIP
COLLEGE NIGHT
DJ DIAMOND TIP
11-2AM (DECK)

FRIDAY 1/2
SUNGLASSES & MUSHROOMS
10-2AM (DOWNSTAIRS)

SATURDAY 1/3
PRIDE & JOY
10-2AM

SUNDAY 1/4
SERVICE INDUSTRY SUNDAY WITH SAM

TUESDAY 1/6
SERVICE INDUSTRY SUNDAY

WEDNESDAY 1/7
COME CHECK OUT
CLUB PUB

MONDAY 1/5
FIESTA BOWL WATCH PARTY!!
TEXAS VS.OHIO STATE
FREE Rudy's BBQ
LIVE BROADCAST & POSTGAME SHOW
AM1300 the ZONE
W/ THE ZONE
REGISTER TO WIN FREE:
CUSTOM Gibson GUITAR
ROBERT HURST ARTWORK



MONARCH EVENT CENTER
3D ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS
NEW YEARS EVE BASH
3 ROOMS - 3 DJS - 3 COMEDIANS
12.31.08
dj wild bill - j. hunt - dj dex
matt willis - john gard - jd styles
hosted by: albert im

MONARCH EVENT CENTER
PROUDLY PRESENTS
MEL WAITERS
SAT JAN 10, 2009 doors open at 8 pm

www.monarcheventcenter.com
myspace.com/monarchaustin
512.371.1711
6406 N. IH-35 SUITE 3100
Located in the Lincoln Village Shopping Center behind Highland Mall
info@monarcheventcenter.com



Live Music Early ... Late Night Loungin'

LUCKY lounge

NO COVER • FREE SHOWS

TUE, DEC. 30, 10PM
AUSTIN'S HOTTEST TUESDAY NIGHT FEATURING:
DJ RAPID RIC OPENING FOR

"THE INCOMPRABLE"
BOOMBOX

WED, DEC. 31, 8PM
COME JOIN US FOR A LUCKY
NEW YEARS BASH
New Years Eve, Dec. 31st - 8pm till close.
Complimentary Champagne and Party Favors, $15 Cover.

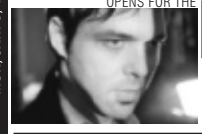
FRI, JAN. 2, 9PM

TWILIGHT BROADCAST
DJ DIAMOND TIP SPINS 'TIL 2AM

SAT, JAN. 3, 9PM

ANGEL FERRER
DJ PROTEGE SPINS 'TIL 2AM

MON, JAN. 5, 10PM


MODELO MONDAY
BEER SPECIALS ALL NIGHT LONG
THE OTHER DUDES & THE SPOILED
OPENS FOR THE

BEAUX LOY BAND

TUE, JAN. 6, 10PM
AUSTIN'S HOTTEST TUESDAY NIGHT FEATURING:
DJ RAPID RIC OPENING FOR

"THE INCOMPRABLE"
BOOMBOX

WED, JAN. 7, 10PM
LUCKY JAM SESSIONS
HOSTED BY LANCE & TYLER OF LOVE & WAR
FEATURING MELODY MURDER & SMASH RILEY

THU, JAN. 8, 10PM

THROWDOWN THURSDAYS
FEATURING
THE EAGLE PRITCHARD
MURRY BAND and
MC OVERLORD

209A West 5th St. 479-7700
Call us to book your private party!
www.theluckylounge.com
www.myspace.com/theluckylounge

club listings

WED 31

ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Elizabeth Wills (3:30)

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Los Texas Wranglers (3:30)

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN Alan Mayes & LaDonna (10:00)

ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Andrea Marie & Magnolia

ANTONE'S The Soldier Thread, the Black & White Years, Bob Schneider

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Lonesome Dave Fisher (9:00)

AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Richardson

BEAUTY BAR Petals, the Boxing Lesson, the Ugly Beats, Dans la Lune, the Strange Boys

THE BELMONT The Motts (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S About: Blank

BROKEN SPOKE New Year's Eve Bash w/ Alvin Crow

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE New Year's Eve Bash w/ Texas FX, Kyle Park

CHEZ ZEE Jacinta (7:00)

THE COCKPIT Club Inclusive w/ Julie Nolan (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB New Year's Eve Bash w/ James McMurtry & Jon Dee Graham

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (8:00)

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Sideshow Tragedy, Dertybird, Taddy Porter

CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)

DARWIN'S PUB Johnny Austin (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Marc Devine Trio w/ Denia Ridley (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Paul White, Ephraim Owens (9:30)

EMO'S T-Bird & the Breaks

EVANGELINE CAFE Ole Farts New Year's Eve w/ Cleve & Sweet Mary (7:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Mau Mau Chaplains, Grimy Styles

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Blue Squeeze Box (8:00)

GARRISON PARK HARBOR New Year's Eve Bash w/ Street Legal (9:00)

GIDDY UPS Roadhouse Rockers

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Toni Price, Robert Earl Keen Jr. (8:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames (6:30)

HEADHUNTERS Wolf Dog, Year of the Kid, Amplified Heat

HOLE IN THE WALL Polly Wants a Popgun, Rockabetty Burlesque, Johnny Hootrock, Scott H. Biram (9:00)

JOVITA'S The Eggmen Family Show (4:00), Ouch!, the Eggmen NYW Show (8:30)

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. Acts are listed chronologically. Schedules are subject to change, so call clubs to confirm lineups. Start times are provided where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Music listings deadline is Monday mornings, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Please indicate roadshows and residencies. Send venue name, address, phone, acts, and start times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; phone, 454-5766 x159; e-mail, **clubs@austinchronicle.com**.

Austin bands: We want to hear from you. If you haven't registered and uploaded your MP3s to the Musicians Register, go to austinchronicle.com/register. Anywhere your band is mentioned, your music will be featured.

roadshows

december

TUE 30

The Union Line, Beauty Bar
Funkternity, Beerland
Todd Snider, Gruene Hall
Dick Wiggler & the Cattle Guards, Headhunters
Jack Rose, Mohawk
The Flying Karamazov Brothers, Palmer Events Center

WED 31

Taddy Porter, Creekside Lounge
Toni Price, Gruene Hall
Reverend Horton Heat, La Zona Rosa
The Flying Karamazov Brothers, Palmer Events Center
Speedealer, **Blood of the Sun**, Red 7
Hacienda, Stubb's
PJ & the Bear, **Lost Soul Review**, Trophy's

january

THU 1

Taddy Porter, Continental Club

FRI 2

Glasgow Smile, Creekside Lounge
Jackie Bristow, the Driskill Hotel
Chloe Day, Elysium
Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans, **Green Room Rockers**, Flamingo Cantina
Clay McClinton, Gruene Hall
Twilight Broadcast, Lucky Lounge
Basstard, **Skullcaster**, **How I Quit Crack**, the Parlor
Spittin' Bullets, Red 7
Trashy & the Kid, **High Lines**, **the Stoics**, Red Eyed Fly
Zenith Fuzzbomb, Room 710
Ingebrigt Haaker Flaten, **Jawwaad Taylor**, **Dave Dove**, Salvage Vanguard Theater
Shurman, Saxon Pub
Rook, Trophy's

SAT 3

Piney Grove Ramblers, Artz Rib House
WJH & the Merrie Murdre of Gloomadeers, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Max Stalling, Gruene Hall
Quiet Life, Hole in the Wall
Autons, **Broadcast Sea**, Red 7
Sad Wings, Red Eyed Fly
Maelstrom, Room 710
Terri Fann, Stardust Club
Tiny Vipers, Stubb's

SUN 4

Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Frank Erwin Center
The Measure, **the Kickback**, Red 7

MON 5

Contrabandits, Headhunters
Claire Small, Hole in the Wall
The Harlequins, Mohawk
Freedy Johnston, Momo's
Blackie, the Parlor
Myth & Legend, Red 7
Arthur Brown, Saxon Pub

TUE 6

The Lovers, Headhunters
Eagle Claw, Red 7
Grave Robber, Room 710
Shurman, Saxon Pub
The Dry Heaves, **White Dog**, **Video Disease**, Snake Eyes Vinyl

WED 7

Unit 21, **Eagle Claw**, Emo's
Heat Machine, Flamingo Cantina
Matt Wilson, Key Bar
Amy Speace, Threadgill's World HQ

THU 8

Kathleen Edwards, Continental Club
The Lusitania, **Westbound Departure**, Creekside Lounge
Off With Their Heads, **El Paso Hot Button**, **the Blacks**, Emo's
Homopolice, Mohawk
Sideshow Tramps, Momo's
Within Chaos, Red 7
Sons of William, **the Heyday**, Stubb's

See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE 2008-2009

Save a stamp! Vote on the Web at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll.

MUSIC POLL BALLOT

After 28 years, you know the drill: This is your chance to duct-tape the critics' mouths shut and speak up about Austin music. Not sure whom to vote for? Turn on the radio, drop by the local record store, or head to the clubs. Your favorite band is probably playing.

AUSTIN BAND OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN SONG OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN ALBUM OF THE YEAR:

BEST NEW AUSTIN BAND:

Best Performing Bands

ROCK:

PUNK:

METAL:

INDUSTRIAL/GOTH:

DJ:

INDIE:

JAZZ:

BLUES:

HIP-HOP:

INSTRUMENTAL:

EXPERIMENTAL:

COUNTRY:

BLUEGRASS:

ROOTS ROCK:

FOLK:

LATIN TRADITIONAL:

LATIN CONTEMPORARY:

WORLD MUSIC:

COVER BAND:

KID BAND (MAJORITY OF MEMBERS UNDER 18):

NONE OF THE ABOVE:

Best Austin Musicians (BAND IF APPLICABLE)

FEMALE VOCALS:

MALE VOCALS:

ELECTRIC GUITAR:

ACOUSTIC GUITAR:

BASS:

DRUMS/PERCUSSION:

KEYBOARDS:

MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT:

SONGWRITER:

PRODUCER (PRODUCER NAME, ALBUM TITLE):

Related Categories

NEW CLUB:

LIVE MUSIC VENUE:

ACOUSTIC VENUE:

ALL-AGES VENUE:

RECORD STORE:

RADIO STATION:

RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):

RADIO PERSONALITY (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):

LOCAL LABEL:

Texas Music Hall of Fame Nominations

Is Biscuit in the Hall of Fame? What about Roky and Willie? Previous winners are listed on the Web at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll/fame. (The answer is yes.) Please circle one or fill in the blank*:

Sixteen Deluxe	Jo Carol Pierce
The Cherubs	True Believers
The Dicks	Matthew Robinson
Hosea Hargrove	Watchtower
Carolyn Hester	Dale Watson
Pariah	Danny Roy Young
	Kelly Willis

OTHER NOMINEE*

Who are these people, and why should you vote for them? Visit the poll ballot online at **austinchronicle.com/musicpoll** *for more information!*

Required Information

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY **STATE**

ZIP

AGE **PHONE**

ONLY BALLOTS WITH A FULL NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS WILL BE COUNTED!

Please mail to: Music Poll
The Austin Chronicle
PO Box 49066
Austin, TX 78765

· Entries must be postmarked by ***FRIDAY, JAN. 30, 2009****. · You can vote either by this mail-in ballot or on the Web at* **austinchronicle.com/musicpoll***. · Ballot must be mailed in; no hand deliveries accepted. · Absolutely no more than one ballot to an envelope. · Photocopied ballots will not be accepted. · Ballot-stuffing may be punishable by public ridicule or a week in the stocks.*

WATERLOO Ice House

THIS WEEK

6TH & LAMAR

EVERY WEDNESDAY 6-9PM
BERNARD ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS:
"UNSIGNED GIANTS"

EVERY THURSDAY, 6:30-9:30PM
THE HUDSONS

38TH & MEDICAL

SUNDAY, DEC. 28:
SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH THE JEFF LOFTON QUARTET WILL DUNLAP'S JAM

9600 ESCARPMENT

THURSDAY, DEC. 25: **WE'RE CLOSED MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

FRIDAY, DEC. 26:
BLACKTOP BEND

SOUTHPARK MEADOWS

FRIDAY, JAN. 1:
WYNN TAYLOR LIVE! 10PM-1AM
FREE TX HOLD 'EM POKER TOURNAMENTS 9 & 11:30PM

SATURDAY, JAN. 3: **BOBBY KENNEDY LIVE!** 10PM-1AM

SUNDAY, JAN. 4: ***SOUTHPARK SERVICE INDUSTRY SUNDAYS*** **WITH THE JUKE BOX HEROES LIVE!** 10PM-1AM

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7:
KARAOKE NIGHT 10PM-1AM

WATERLOOICEHOUSE.COM

CLUB LISTINGS FROM WEDNESDAY

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LA ZONA ROSA Reverend Horton Heat

LAMBERTS New Year's Eve Party w/ DJ Chicken George, the Moonhangers (10:30)

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Red Young (6:30)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem (9:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming (8:00)

MANSION AT JUDGES' HILL Breast Cancer Resource Centers Benefit, Crystal Ball w/ Midnight Extravaganza

MEAN-EYED CAT New Year's Eve Throwdown w/ Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (9:00)

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Suede (8:00)

MOMO'S Dustin Welch, South Austin Jug Band (9:00)

MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Clay Jefferies (8:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR 11-Fingered Charlie (10:00)

PALMER EVENTS CENTER The Flying Karamazov Brothers w/ the Austin Symphony Orchestra (8:00)

THE PARISH Grupo Fantasma

PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Ray Wylie Hubbard

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED 7 Blood of the Sun, Dixie Witch, Speedealer

RILEY'S TAVERN New Year's Eve Bash w/ Joel Hofmann Band

ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D.

RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons, Cienfuegos (7:30)

SAXON PUB Paula Nelson, Carolyn Wonderland (8:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Austin Poetry Slam (8:00), Prince Tribute, SIMS Foundation Benefit w/ DJ Mahealani, Foot Patrol (10:00)

SEGOVIA SPANISH RESTAURANT The Faders, Fredy Argir, Smitty City (8:30)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Mingo Fishtrap

SHINER'S SALOON Jeremy Steding (10:30)

SPEAKEASY Dysfunkshun Junkshun

SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE International Waters, Wine & Revolution, Strange Attractors (10:00)

STARDUST CLUB New Year's Eve Bash w/ Sam Bentley

STUBB'S New Year's Bash w/ Hacienda, Black Joe Lewis & the Honey Bears

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Bita Blue

TRIPLE CROWN Erickson, the Christophers, Kallisti Gold

TROPHY'S Lost Soul Review, PJ & the Bear (6:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET Ptarmigan (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Will Sexton, Stephen Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)

THU 01

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Jerry Lightsey

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Jimi Lee

BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton

CONTINENTAL CLUB Taddy Porter, Honky (10:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Hilary York, Anthony Farrell (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Paul White Quintet (9:30)

GRUENE HALL Tejas Brothers, Band of Heathens, Guy Forsyth (1:00)

HEADHUNTERS Silly Goose Documents

HOLE IN THE WALL Billy Dave Wammo, Brooks Alan Brannon, Time Out (8:00)

IGUANA GRILL Malford Milligan

ONE 2 ONE BAR Andy Mcintyre & the Primal Groove (10:00)

THE PARLOR James & the Douchebags, Cheap Fire (9:00)

RED EYED FLY One Last Cleansing, Against the Archaic, Silly Goose Documents, the Stampede

ROOM 710 Et Al, Shriner Threat, Hazard of Industry, Duke

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Chris Boss

TRIPLE CROWN Robbie Doyen (6:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SLAUGHTER LANE Wynn Taylor

FRI 02

ACES LOUNGE Jazz Burlesque w/ PK Trio, Southern Sirens

ARTZ RIB HOUSE George Enslé (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Alan Haynes

BEAUTY BAR Show Me Tiger!, Gobi (10:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE The Cornell Hurd Band

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Mad Cowboys (7:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Midnight River Choir (9:00)

CHESTER'S ICE HOUSE Andrea Marie & Magnolia

CLUB DE VILLE Blase Faire, Midgetmen, the Alice Rose

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Two Hoots & a Holler, the Derailers (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE Wall Street

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Powersquid, Window Silhouette, Glasgow Smile, Tiana Hux

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Rigel Thurston, Jackie Bristow (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites, the Brew (6:00)

ELYSIUM Chloe Day

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 • 7PM
OLD FARTS EARLY NEW YEARS EVE
CLEVE & SWEET MARY HATTERSLEY
FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 • 10PM • $5
LARRY LANGE'S LONELY KNIGHTS

EVANGELINE CAFE · 8106 BRODIE
8106 BRODIE LANE
282-2586

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3 • 3PM
SUNSET VALLEY BOYS
MONDAY, JANUARY 5 • 6:30PM
TEXAS VS OHIO STATE AT THE FIESTA BOWL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6
BRENNEN LEIGH *6PM*
KEVIN GALLAUGHER & GREG ANDERSON *8PM*

ALL AGES, ALL THE TIME

Emo's

alternative lounging

505-8541
603 RED RIVER

NEW YEAR'S EVE
THURSDAY, DECEMEBER 31

INSIDE:



TBIRD
& THE BREAKS
WHITE BITCH

FREE WEEK FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

INSIDE: **PATAPHYSICS**
SILVER PINES
JC & CO. • SCHOOL POLICE
(MEMBERS OF BELAIRE)

OUTSIDE: **LEMURS • RINGO**
DEATHSTARR • OVENBIRDS
THE BOXING LESSON • THE GREAT NOSTALGIC

FREE WEEK SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

INSIDE: **THE UGLY BEATS**
THE JUNGLE ROCKERS
AMPLIFIED HEAT • DANS LA LUNE

OUTSIDE: **WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS**
OH NO! OH MY! • THE PONS • THE MERCERS
THE GEORGIAN COMPANY

FREE WEEK SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

INSIDE: **THE ALWAYS ALREADY**
HAUNTING OBOE MUSIC
PRAYER FOR ANIMALS • J.BE

OUTSIDE: **THE TUNNELS**
CHRISTIAN BLAND (OF THE BLACK ANGELS)
ELVIS • WOVEN BONES

FREE WEEK MONDAY, JANUARY 5

INSIDE: FAMILY DRINKING NIGHT
ZOOKEEPER
BOOHER AND THE TURKEYS
FRANK SMITH • MASONIC • SAD ACCORDIONS

OUTSIDE FLOOR: **ABBY BIRDS**
STEREO IS A LIE • COURSES AND ANGLES
YOUR KISSES CAUSE CRASHES • NEW ROMAN TIMES

"FREE WEEK" FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 THROUGH SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

FREE WEEK TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

INSIDE: **HIGH WATT CRUCIFIXERS**
BLACK EARTH • FULL STRIDE
BABY DICK (MEMBERS OF FUCKEMOS)
YAYO • SHITTY CAR WASH

OUTSIDE FLOOR: **THE BREMEN RIOT**
(MIKE NICOLAI & GRAND CHAMPEEN)
MOONLIGHT TOWERS • MILITANT BABIES • GLEESON

FREE WEEK WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

INSIDE: **WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH**
THE DIAGONALS • EAGLE CLAW
MY EDUCATION • BLACK COCK • SELENESE

OUTSIDE: **WORLD BURNS TO DEATH**
UNIT 21 • IRON AGE • THE ALTARS

FREE WEEK THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

INSIDE: **EL PASO HOT BUTTON**
HARLEM • UME • THE BLACKS

OUTSIDE: **OFF WITH THEIR HEADS**
BROKEN GOLD • DESKONCIDOS
GHOST KNIFE • SEND HELP

FREE WEEK FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

INSIDE: **ATTAK (IN)FORMATION**
THIS HORN OF AFRICA (EX-ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE)
BEE VS. MOTH • SERIOUS TRACERS • CHE ARTHUR

OUTSIDE: **STRANGE BOYS**
HACIENDA • WHITE WHITE LIGHTS \THE TEENERS • MAN STAMPS

FREE WEEK SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

INSIDE: **THOSE PEABODYS**
THE CRACK PIPES
SHAPES HAVE FANGS • RED LEAVES
WINE & REVOLUTION • A GIANT DOG

OUTSIDE: **SPECIAL GUESTS**
PLUS DJ REMY MAC (RAMESH FROM VOXTROT)
THE BLACK • INTERNATIONAL WATERS
THE MINOTAURS • CORTO MALTESE
CRY BLOOD APACHE • BEAR CLAW

FREE WEEK SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

FREE WEEK CLOSER SHOW
THE SERVICE INDUSTRY

INDUSTRY NIGHT
50% OFF ALL DRINKS
WITH TABC CARD OR PAY STUB

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

INSIDE: **SCORPION CHILD**
THE SO SO GLOS • OLD COYOTE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

HOMEGROWN 101X
INSIDE: **AUX • ELECTRIC TOUCH**
NEW ROMAN TIMES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

QUIET COMPANY
MAGNOLIA SONS • CHANDELIERS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

INSIDE: **THE LAST GASP** CD RELEASE
THE MERCERS • PAUL BANKS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

INSIDE: THE HELL ON HEELS TOUR
VON IVA • SEMI PRECIOUS WEAPONS • NICO VEGA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

INSIDE: **REVEREND DEADEYE**

OUTSIDE:
TINY TINY HEARTS • SILVER PINES
SILENT LAND TIME MACHINE • INDIAN QUEEN MEDLEY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

INSIDE: **LIONS • PJ AND THE BEAR**
CD RELEASE PARTY WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

OUTSIDE:
AMEBIX • SEVERED HEAD OF STATE
SUB OSLO • DESKONOCIDOS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

OUTSIDE: 101X PRESENTS
BADFISH • SCOTTY DON'T
FULL SERVICE • GRIMY STYLES

INSIDE: **KILLOLA • THE ACTION DESIGN**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

MAIN STAGE: CORE DISORDER III METAL FEST
SAD WINGS • BANGLADESH
COURSE OF RUIN • DEBRIS
STIR THE SILENCE • REND • CRITICAL ASSEMBLY

INSIDE: **WITHIN CHAOS • SHRAPNEL**
DEAD EARTH POLITICS • BLOOD RED DISCIPLE
LUG • KILLING IN APATHY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

INSIDE: **FUCKED UP**
ANNIHILATION TIME • IRON AGE • A.N.S.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

THE LEGENDARY SHACK SHAKERS
(FEATURING DUANE DENISON OF THE JESUS LIZARD)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

OUTSIDE: **HANK III & ASSJACK**
THOSE POOR BASTARDS

COMING SOON: 2/3 PASSAFIRE & THE SUPERVILLAINS (INSIDE, ONSALE NOW) • 2/11 STREETLIGHT MANIFESTO, AWS, THE SWELLERS, THE STITCH UP (OUTSIDE) / VALENCIA, HOUSTON CALLS, ARTIST VS. POET (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 2/12 REVEREND PEYTON'S BIG DAMN BAND (INSIDE) • 2/15 MILLIONAIRES, CASH CASH, I SET MY FRIENDS ON FIRE, WATCH OUT! THERE'S GHOSTS (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 2/16 MYCHILDREN MYBRIDE, THE GHOST INSIDE, FOR TODAY, BROADCAST THE NIGHTMARE, TBA (INSIDE, DOORS @6PM) • 2/20 GIL MANTERA'S PARTY DREAM (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 2/21 A.A. BONDY (INSIDE, ON SALE 12/20) • 2/27 FUJIYA & MIYAGI, PRJECT JENNY, PROJECT JAN (INSIDE, ON SALE SAT 12/20) • 2/28 DELTA SPIRIT, OTHER LIVES, DAWES (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 3/7 TAKE ACTION TOUR: CUTE IS WHAT WE AIM FOR, BREATHE CAROLINA, MEG & DIA, EVERY AVENUE, ANARBOR (OUTSIDE, ON SALE SAT 12/20) • 3/8 LUDO, SING IT LOUD, THIS PROVIDENCE, THE MORNING LIGHT (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 4/25 ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE, SONIC SUICIDE SQUAD (INSIDE, ON SALE NOW)

BUY ADVANCE TICKETS - SHOWS ARE SELLING OUT
*ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT emosaustin.com, Waterloo Records, End of an Era records & Sound on Sound records

RESOLVE.

B.D. Riley's Irish Pub

6TH STREET • FOR GROWN UPS

TO HAVE FUN!

OPEN 365 DAYS!

PARTY ON NEW YEARS EVE
No Cover. No Reservations. Great Blues.
WITH JOE RICHARDSON EXPRESS

FOOD • SPIRITS • MUSIC • ADULTS
204 E. 6TH (AT BRAZOS)
494·1335 • BDRILEYS.COM
SERVING UP FOOD & FUN SINCE 2000

21 AND UP WELCOME

FLAMINGO CANTINA
515 E. SIXTH ST. 512.494.9336
BRINGING LIVE MUSIC TO AUSTIN FOR 17 YEARS

FRIDAY JAN 2 *SKA REGGAE* DOORS 9:00
RYAN SCROGGINS AND THE TRENCHTOWN TEXANS
GREEN ROOM ROCKERS
DOUBLE BARREL SOUNDSYSTEM
PROPER VILLAIN SOUNDSYSTEM

SATURDAY JAN 03 *ELCECTIC ROCK* DOORS 9:00
VAN BUREN BOYS
AQUAHOLICS

WEDNESDAY JAN 07 *SKA* DOORS 9:00
THE HEAT MACHINE

UPCOMING SHOWS
01.08: TRIBELLA, THE ECHO VINE, RYAN YOUNG
01.09: DON CHANI & DAILY BREAD DUB
01.10: SONY/AKASHA RECORDS SHOWCASE WITH DOPE E of SPC & HATCH
01.14: NOBODY'S BUSINESS, THE CARTER ARRINGTON TRIO, FUNK DIRTY
01.16: ROYAL CITY RIOT WITH BENNY VS THE BEAST
01.21: CASPER & THE HOUSE OF DAVIDE, FEATURING LEROY "Horsemouth" WALLACE on Drums
01.22: SNAKESKIN PRISON, WHITE KNUCKLE DRIVERS, MOSSM
01.23: BOMBASTA WITH EL TULE
01.28: HAPS, MSG CREW, HOPS KOTCH

FRIDAY JANUARY 30TH & SATURDAY JANUARY 31ST
THE SLACKERS
(LIVE FROM FLAMINGO CANTINA DVD RELEASE PARTY)
WWW.FLAMINGOCANTINA.COM

CLUB LISTINGS FROM FRIDAY

EMO'S Inside: School Police, J.C. & Co., Silver Pines, Pataphysics; Outside: Southern Drama, the Boxing Lesson, Ovenbirds, Ringo Deathstarr, the Lemurs

EVANGELINE CAFE Larry Lange

FLAMINGO CANTINA Proper Villain Soundsystem, Double Barrel Soundsystem, Green Room Rockers, Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans (9:00)

GARRISON PARK HARBOR Lindsay Wells

GRUENE HALL Clay McClinton (7:00)

HANOVER'S Atomic Strawberry

HEADHUNTERS Wolf Dog, These City Lights, Nikkoli Cade Band, Yayo

HILL'S CAFE Ronnie Caywood

HOLE IN THE WALL Mike Nicolai, Spooly Show, San Saba County, Jude Ross, Deaf Ears (7:00)

IGUANA GRILL Bo Porter

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)

LAMBERTS The Jitterbug Vipers (7:00), Brazos, Harlem, Canopy (10:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Kenny Luna (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Twilight Broadcast, DJ Diamond Tip (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)

MOHAWK Outside: LAX, AUX, Calm Blue Sea, Low Line Caller; Inside: Built by Snow (9:00)

MOMO'S Will Taylor & Strings Attached Stevie Wonder Tribute (8:00)

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Eric Tessmer (10:00)

THE PARLOR How I Quit Crack, Skullcaster, Bassturd (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Rob Chambers

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

Transmission Entertainment - *Transmit Socially*

FREE WEEK!!

see individual club listing for details

RED7 611 E. 7th

ALL SHOWS ARE FREE THIS WEEK!
$5 COVER FOR MINORS.

FRI 1/2 - INSIDE: (FREE) Capital Scam, Blank Generation, Spittin' Bullets, Sleezus Fist
PATIO: (FREE) Summer of Blood, The Ends, Deadly Companions, No No No Hopes
SAT 1/3- INSIDE: (FREE) Black Panda, The Gospel Truth, Bottle Service
PATIO: (FREE) Broadcast Sea, Camp X-Ray, We'll Go Machete,Beta Valentine,Monuments
SUN 1/4 - INSIDE: (FREE) Low Down Shaky Chill, Los Hispanos UK, Al Shire, The Kickback
PATIO: (FREE) The Measure (SA), The Anchor, Stallone, Saw Wheel ,Unwed Fathers, Crows Feet
MON 1/5 - (FREE) Set Aflame, Myth and Legend, By A Long Shot
TUE 1/6 - INSIDE: (FREE) Scorpion Child, Pack of Wolves, Watching the Moon, Johnny Gobbs
PATIO: (FREE) The Roller, Radioland Murders, Eagle Claw
WED 1/7 - PATIO: (FREE) Super Lite Bike, Fatback Circus, Muchos Backflips, Opposite Day
INSIDE: (FREE) yayo and more
THU 1/8 - PATIO: (FREE) Within Chaos, Shrapnel, Dead Earth Politics
INSIDE: (FREE) Mocktigers, The Action Is, West Coast Pinups,Passed Out Flyers

Mohawk AUSTIN·TEXAS 912 Red River

ALL SHOWS ARE FREE THIS WEEK!
$5 COVER FOR MINORS.

FRI 1/2 - OUTSIDE 8pm: (FREE) Low Line Caller, Calm Blue Sea, L.A.X, AUX
INSIDE 10pm: (FREE) PartyEnds.com night w/ Built by Snow, The Always Already, Zlam Dunk
SAT 1/3 - OUTSIDE 9pm: (FREE) Riverboat Gamblers, Alright Tonight, Harlem
INSIDE 10pm: (FREE) Bankrupt and the Borrowers, Cartright, Whitman, The Greyhounds
SUN 1/4 - INSIDE 10pm: (FREE) Serious Tracers, Follow That Bird!, Butcher Bear's Rainbow Bus Band, Explosion Horse
MON 1/5 - INSIDE 10pm: (FREE) Bridge Farmers, The Harlequins, The Bread
TUES 1/6 - INSIDE 10pm: (FREE) Baby Robots, Colour Wheel, Frantic Clam, Perfect Pants (Mohawks, Mullets and Rattails night)
WED 1/7 - INSIDE 10pm: (FREE) The Strange Attractors, Tia Carrera, The Tunnels, Che Arthur
THU 1/8 - OUTSIDE 9pm: (FREE) Golden Boys, Ripe, Basic
INSIDE 10pm: (FREE) The Homopolice, Air Traffic Controllers, Dikes of Holland

CLUB DE VILLE 900 Red River

ALL SHOWS ARE FREE THIS WEEK!
$5 COVER FOR MINORS.

FRI 1/2 - (FREE) The Alice Rose, The Midgetmen, Blasé Faire
SAT 1/3 - (FREE) Til We're Blue or Destroy, Hollywood Gossip, Ichi Ni San Shi
WED 1/7 - (FREE) Model UN, The Great Nostalgic
THU 1/8 - (FREE) Loxsly, Haunting Oboe Music, Peel
FRI 1/9 - (FREE) La Snacks, Cry Blood Apache, Weird Weeds, DJ Miss Manners
SAT 1/10 - (FREE) Shapes Have Fangs, Cavedweller, The Rocking Rock City Rockingtons

LAMBERTS 401 W. 2nd

FRI 1/2
7:00 – Jitterbug Vipers
10:30 – Brazos, Harlem, Canopy
SAT 1/3
7:00 – Connor Forysth & the Corndog Quartet
10:30 – Hunter Cross and the Strays
SUN 1/4
7:00 – JAZZ NIGHT with Ephraim Owens, Brannen Temple, & Red Young
TUE 1/6
7:00 – Glover Tango
WED 1/7
7:00 – Moonhangers
THU 1/8
7:00 – TBA
10:30 – *LOW CASH THURSDAYS* w/ DJ Mel

UPCOMING

1/13 - **Donkeys** (Mohawk), 1/15 - **Yo Majesty and Floetry** (Mohawk), 1/15 - **Outlaw Order (eyehategod)** (Red 7), 1/16 - **Dynamite Boy** (Red 7), 1/17 - **Brothers and Sisters** (Mohawk), 1/23 - **This Will Destroy You** (Mohawk), 1/24 - **KRS-1** (Mohawk), 1/24 - **Ume CD Release** (Mohawk), 1/29 - **Cattle Decapitation** (Red 7), 1/30 - **Shearwater** (Mohawk), 1/31 - **TSOL** (Red 7), 2/1 - **MV& EE** (Mohawk)

www.transmissionentertainment.com

Hanovers

BOOK YOUR NEXT PARTY WITH US!

THURSDAY 8pm-12am
KARAOKE NEW CONTEST LEAGUE WILL BEGIN 1/08/09

SUNDAY
Poker League 5:30-8:30pm
Cash Prizes for 1ST and 2ND

WEDNESDAY Live Music (12/31)
PIMPZ 'N HOEZ NEW YEAR BASH W/ COSTUME CONTEST & ERIC TESSMER BAND

FRIDAY Live Music (1/2) NO COVER
ATOMIC STRAWBERRY

SATURDAY Live Music (1/3)
★ NO COVER ★ JOHNNY HOOTROCK ★ ★ ★ W/ BURLESQUE GIRLS ★ ★

FRIDAY Live Music (1/9)
STIL SIC

SATURDAY Live Music (1/10)
NO COVER J&L BROTHERS BAND

FRIDAY Live Music (1/16)
UNCHAINED

SATURDAY Live Music (1/17)
NO COVER STONE RAVERS

FRIDAY Live Music (1/23)
SKYROCKET!!

SATURDAY Live Music (1/24)
NO COVER WELDON HANSON

HAPPY HOUR
Happy Hour Weekdays from 2pm-7pm
Every day: $2 Domestic Bottles & Draft, $3 Import Bottles & Draft
VOLLEYBALL
Courts available 7 days a week.
NEW BAR HOURS
M-F 2pm-2am; Sat/Sun 11am-2am

OUTDOOR BIER GARTEN

670.9617 Smoking Allowed
HANOVERSAUSTIN.COM
108 MAIN ST. • Pflugerville

THE SCOOT INN

11 LOCAL DRAFTS ✳ 2 FULL BARS ✳ 2 STAGES

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31
9PM DOORS 10PM SHOW
BENEFITTING THE SIMS FOUNDATION

PRINCE NITE NEW YEAR'S EVE 2008
STARRING
FOOT PATROL
THE FUNK PEEPSHOW DANCERS
DJ MAHEALANI

COMING IN JANUARY:
• THE HEX DISPENSERS •
• THE WOES •
• MOSTLY DEAD •
• FLASH BOYS •
• THE FUZZ CLUB •
• PSUEDO SLANG •
• SONS OF HERCULES •
& MORE

1308 EAST 4TH STREET AT NAVASOTA
www.eastinns.com

available for PRIVATE EVENTS
CONTACTANTONES@GMAIL.COM

Antone's

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

TUESDAY DEC. 30TH
THE SCABS

DJ MEL • GOOD LUCK ACADEMY
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

New Years Eve!
Champagne Toast @ Midnight

BOB Schneider
THE BLACK & WHITE YEARS
THE SOLDIER THREAD • DJ THAI PAUL
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRIDAY JANUARY 2ND
BROWNOUT!
FEAT. MEMBERS OF GRUPO FANTASMA
FLYJACK FUNK!
MINGO FISHTRAP
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SATURDAY JANUARY 3RD
MICKY & THE MOTORCARS
THE FLATCAR RATTLERS
SHAWN NELSON & THE RAMBLERS

ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SUN 04 JAN SERVICE INDUSTRY SUNDAY
SONGWRITER NIGHT!

TUESDAY JANUARY 6TH
DOORS 7 • SHOW 8
AUSTIN BLUES SOCIETY BLUES JAM
Blue Tuesday band
A SPECIAL FAREWELL TO
MALFORD MILLIGAN
HIS FINAL AUSTIN GIG WITH
DEREK O'BRIEN • DAVID GRISSOM
AND MANY SPECIAL GUESTS

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 07
nelo
THE STEPS HIGHTIDE BLUES

ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

THURSDAY JANUARY 08
THE TRIM UNDERDRIVEN

FRIDAY JANUARY 9TH

ONE NIGHT ONLY
DOYLE BRAMHALL II
VIP TABLES & TICKETS ON SALE NOW

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH
JUNIOR BROWN

LUCKY TOMBLIN BAND OPENS
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SUNDAY JANUARY 11
FUNDRAISER FOR OUR FRIEND
ELDRIDGE GOINS
WITH CAROLYN WONDERLAND
SUZANNA CHOEFFEL • GUY FORSYTH

WED 14 JAN THE HOOT STRIKES BACK!
80's Hoot Night

THU 15 JAN VENDETTA

SUN 18 JAN A NIGHT FOR AMANDA
JOHNNY GOUDIE & THE LITTLE CHAMPIONS
SPOONFED TRIBE
THE WARTIME SOCIAL • THE CRAZY IVANS

JANUARY 16 & 17
NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL STARS

W/ HILL COUNTRY REVUE
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRIDAY JANUARY 23
TEXAS GUITAR WOMEN

with SUE FOLEY
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
THE BLUEBONNETS
ROSIE FLORES
CINDY CASHDOLLAR
SARAH BROWN • ERIN JAIMES
LISA PANKRATZ & MANY MORE
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SAT 24 JAN WIDEAWAKE CD RELEASE
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI 30 JAN THE GOURDS
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SATURDAY JANUARY 31ST
JJ GREY & MOFRO
ORANGE BLOSSOMS TOUR
w/ JONATHAN TYLER & THE NORTHERN LIGHTS
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

TUE 03 FEB RUTHIE FOSTER
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

THU 05 FEB KEVIN COSTNER & MODERN WEST
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI 06 FEB STATE RADIO & REBELUTION
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

TUE 10 FEB COREY SMITH
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

VALENTINE'S WEEKEND FEB. 13-15
MARCIA BALL'S
GREAT BIG BIRTHDAY BASH
ON SALE NOW • WWW.MARCIABALL.COM

THU 19 FEB LYKKE LI
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI 27 FEB KELLER WILLIAMS
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20TH
MISSY HIGGINS & JUSTIN NOZUKA
ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25TH
SON VOLT

ON SALE NOW • FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

Remember CLIFFORD
ANTONES ON MYSPACE MYSPACE.COM/ANTONESNIGHTCLUB
213 W. 5TH STREET • AUSTIN TX • WWW.ANTONES.NET • ALL AGES WELCOME • AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE PARTIES • CALL 512.320.8424

MOMO'S
West 6th & Rio Grande
REAL LIVE MUSIC
AUSTIN • TEXAS • USA
WWW.MOMOSCLUB.COM

SMOKING PERMITTED ON OUR OUTDOOR PATIO
618 WEST 6TH ST ABOVE KATZ'S 6TH & RIO GRANDE 479-8848

WEDNESDAY DEC 31 – NEW YEAR'S EVE
LAST SHOW EVER!
SOUTH AUSTIN 11:30 JUG BAND

TIX AT FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

DUSTIN WELCH 9 PM $20

FRIDAY JANUARY 2
WILL TAYLOR & STRINGS ATTACHED
PRESENT STEVIE WONDER 8

SATURDAY JANUARY 3

WARREN HOOD & THE HOODLUMS 10
RELENTLESS JONES
CD RELEASE PARTY 12
EZRA REYNOLDS 8:30
MANWICH 7

SUNDAY JANUARY 4
LEVEL HILL 9:30
GERON HOY 8

MONDAY DECEMBER 5
FREEDY JOHNSTON 8
JESSE SUBLETT
W/ JON DEE GRAHAM 7
BEN MALLOTT 9:45
IZZY COX 11:15

TUESDAY JANUARY 6
JAMIE KRUEGER GROUP 11:45
JEREMY NAIL & THE INCIDENTS 10:30
GOLDCURE 9:30
SIDESHOW TRAMPS 8:15
CANOPY 7
NO COVER HAPPY HR CASTRO'S BEARD 5:15

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7

DAN DYER 9:45
ALLEN DANIELS 1
KALU JAMES 11:45
DAVID RICE 8:30
NATHAN HUBBLE 7
NO COVER HAPPY HR MIKE McGEENEY 5:15

UPCOMING SHOWS
DEXTER FREEBISH JAN 9
SETH WALKER JAN 10
BELLEVILLE OUTFIT JAN 16

Jovita's
LIVE MUSIC VENUE
1619 S. 1st Street • 447-7825

LIVE MUSIC SHOWCASE

WEDNESDAY, 12/31
2 SHOWS! PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS!
Early Family Show!
4-6:30pm / $8 Adults / $5 Kids at Door
NYE BASH! Doors 7:30pm
$20 Frontgate Tickets:
frontgatetickets.com or at the door
OUCH! 8:15pm
THE EGGMEN 9pm-1am



THURSDAY, 1/1
CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY

SATURDAY, 1/3
GREAT BLUES! NO COVER!
LONG VACATION 5:30-7pm
TEXAS BLUES HEELERS 7:30pm
BROTHER MAGNUM 9:30pm



SUNDAY, 1/4
DANCE! $5 COVER
THE BREW 7pm



TUESDAY, 1/6
ROCKABILLY! NO COVER!
MICHAEL SCOTT PARKER 6:30pm
THE MOONHOWLERS 8pm



WEDNESDAY, 1/7
BOLERO NIGHT! NO COVER!
VITERA 7pm



THURSDAY, 1/8
CORNELL HURD BAND 8pm-10pm

FRIDAY, 1/9
$5 COVER!
BILLY DEE 7-8:30pm
THE QUEBEC SISTERS 9pm



Saxon Pub
1320 S. Lamar 448-2552
www.thesaxonpub.com

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH
CAROLYN WONDERLAND
PAULA NELSON 8:00
11:00 SHOW, $20 ADV, $20 DOOR. FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

THURSDAY JANUARY 1
L.Z. LOVE 8:00 $5
BEN MALLOTT 12:30 $5
BRUCE SMITH 10:30 $5
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 JAMES HAND

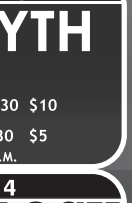
FRIDAY JANUARY 2
THE BELLEVILLE OUTFIT 10:00 $10



SHURMAN 12:30 $8
JAMIE THOMAS 9:00 $10
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 THE REGULARS

SATURDAY JANUARY 3
GUY FORSYTH 8:00 $10
VAN WILKS 10:30 $10
MEAGAN TUBB 12:30 $5
SATURDAY SOCIAL 3:00 P.M.

SUNDAY JANUARY 4
BOBBY WHITLOCK & COCO CARMEL 10:15 $10



THE RESENTMENTS 7:00 $7
THE SALINGERS 12:00 $5

MONDAY JANUARY 5
ARTHUR BROWN
THE GOD OF HELLFIRE 8:30 $10



JEFF PLANKENHORN 10:30 $5
NATHAN HUBBLE 12:30 $5
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN 7:00 $10

TUESDAY JANUARY 6
BRUCE HUGHES & THE ALL-NUDE ARMY 10:00 $5



SHURMAN 8:00 $5
AUSTIN COLLINS 12:00 $5
5:30 No Cover Happy Hour ROBBIE & THE ROGUES

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 7
MONTE MONTGOMERY 8:00 $10



PAPA MALI 10:00 $10



MEAGAN TUBB 12:00 $5
No Cover Happy Hour 6:00 BO PORTER

JAN 8 - PATRICE PIKE & JOY DAVIS
JAN 9 - IAN MCLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND
JAN 23 - RAY WYLIE HUBBARD

CLUB LISTINGS FROM FRIDAY

RED 7 Outside: The No No No Hopes, Summer of Blood, the Deadly Companions, the Ends; Inside: Sleezus Fist, Spittin' Bullets, Blank Generation, Capital Scam

RED EYED FLY El Charco, the Stoics, High Lines, Automatic Cycle, Trashy & the Kid

ROOM 710 Zenith Fuzzbomb, Micah & the Mutants, Hit by a Car

RUTA MAYA Caesar Brothers' Funkbox, Soul Kitchen (9:30)

SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER Chris Cogburn, Dave Dove, Jawwaad Taylor, Ingebrigt Haaker Flaten (8:00)

SÃO PAULO'S Three Jazz Collective (7:30)

SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00), Jamie Thomas, Shurman (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL LC Rocks

SPEAKEASY Memphis Train Revue (9:30)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Rabb Rodriguez y los Killa Hawgs, Shotgun Hustler, Javi Garcia

TROPHY'S Tin Can Phone, Rook

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE AT THE GROVE Wynn Taylor

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE DOWNTOWN David Wolfe

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SLAUGHTER LANE Mirage Jazz Ensemble

SAT 03

ACES LOUNGE Suicide Kings, Southern Sirens

ANTONE'S Micky & the Motorcars

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Piney Grove Ramblers (7:30)

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Out of the Blue (10:00am)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer

BEERLAND Izzy Cox, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5, Flametrick Subs

'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Bruce Robison

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Jason Marbach (9:00)

CLUB DE VILLE Ichi Ni San Shi, Hollywood Gossip, Til We're Blue or Destroy (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd Volkaert (3:00), No Show Ponies, Pink Nasty, Li'l Cap'n Travis (9:30)

COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz

COTTON CLUB People's Choice (9:00)

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE I'd Die For, Lo-Fi, Feathers Fahrenheit, Jeremy Nail

DONN'S DEPOT Austin Homegrown

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Grand Hotel, Patricia G. (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Red Young's New Texas Tenors (9:30)

EMO'S Inside: Dans La Lune, Amplified Heat, Jungle Rockers, the Ugly Beats; Outside: The Georgian Company, the Mercers, the Pons, Oh No! Oh My!, What Made Milwaukee Famous

EVANGELINE CAFE Sunset Valley Boys (3:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA The Aquaholics, the Van Buren Boys (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Adam Glasseye, Wino Vino, WJH & the Merrie Murdre of Gloomadeers (9:00)

GARRISON PARK HARBOR Third Steele

GRUENE HALL Sean Castillo & the Hubcaps (1:00), Max Stalling (9:00)

HEADHUNTERS Capital City Outlaws, Butcherwhite, HammerDog

HILL'S CAFE Matt Deaton

HOLE IN THE WALL Leatherbag, Quiet Life, the Archibalds (10:00)

IGUANA GRILL Kevin Higgens & Barbara Malteze

JOVITA'S Longvacation, Texas Blues Heelers, Brother Magnum (5:30)

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)

LAMBERTS Connor Forysth & the Corndog Quartet (7:00), Hunter Cross & the Strays (10:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Kenny Luna (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Angel Ferrer, DJ Protege (9:00)

MOHAWK Harlem, Riverboat Gamblers

MOMO'S Manwich, Ezra Reynolds, Warren Hood (7:00)

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (11:30am)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Ben Danaher

ONE 2 ONE BAR Alan Haynes (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Wynn Taylor, Band of Heathens

RED 7 Beta Valentine, We'll Go Machete, Camp X-Ray, Broadcast Sea, Autons, Bottle Service, the Gospel Truth, the Ape Shits

RED EYED FLY Capricorn USA, Drifter, Sad Wings

RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:00)

ROOM 710 Roger's Porn Collection, HOD, Maelstrom

RUTA MAYA Never Get Busted w/ Blood Diamondz (9:30)

SAXON PUB Guy Forsyth, Van Wilks (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL LC Rocks

SPEAKEASY The Space Rockers (9:30)

STARDUST CLUB Terri Fann, Diamond Simon & the Roughcuts (9:00)

STUBB'S Precious Blood, Balmorhea, Tiny Vipers

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Mirage Jazz Ensemble (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Chief & the Doomsday, the Word Association

TRIUMPH CAFE Brian MacLeod's Hi-Fi (7:00)

TROPHY'S Distance Runner

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE AT THE GROVE Six Sons of a Gun

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE DOWNTOWN John Burkland

SUN 04

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Swing Kings (6:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (8:00)

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ A.J. Kline (8:00)

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Brian

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Texas Fx (4:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Rich Harney Trio (9:30)

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*

TATTOOS ART CONTESTS VENDORS SIDESHOW & MORE!

STAR OF TEXAS
TATTOO ART REVIVAL

WWW.GOLIVEEAST.COM

January 9–11, 2009

Palmer Events Center
900 Barton Springs Road

DRAUGHT HOUSE
★ PUB & BREWERY

On Tap... ACE, ANCHOR, AVERY, BASS, BELLHAVEN, BEAR REPUBLIC, BODDINGTONS, BOSTEELS, DOGFISH HEAD, FULLER'S, GUINNESS, HACKER PSCHORR, HOEGAARDEN, INDEPENDENCE, LAGUNITAS, LINDEMAN'S, LIEFMAN'S, LIVE OAK, LEFT HAND, MAREDSOUS, MURPHY'S, NEW BELGIUM, NORTH COAST, PAULANER, REAL ALE, SIERRA NEVADA, STELLA ARTOIS, STONE, SMITHWICKS, ST. ARNOLD, ST. BERNARDUS, VICTORY, YOUNG'S, WARSTEINER, WOODCHUCK... *since 1968*

4112 MEDICAL PKWY ★ 452-MALT ★ DRAUGHTHOUSE.COM

speakeasy
ON THE AVENUE

Tuesday, December 30th	James Moran	9:30pm
Wednesday, December 31st	New Year's Eve Dysfunkshun Junkshun Doors Open At 8:00pm	
Thursday, January 1st	Please join us Friday, Speakeasy will be closed New Year's Day	
Friday, January 2nd	Memphis Train Revue	9:30pm
Saturday, January 3rd	The Space Rockers	9:30pm

CELEBRATE
2009
@ 219

Details at 219west.com

Dine Early
Play Late

219 WEST
Restaurant Lounge Nightclub

219 W. 4th st.
(512) 474-2194
www.219west.com

speakeasy
ON THE AVENUE
IMPERIA
Cuba Libre

New Year's Eve 2008

Buy Your
Presale Tickets
Now
Call 47-Party

We Have Something
For Everyone!

*Speakeasy's Music Lounge,
Terrace 59, Kabaret Room
*Cuba Libre
*Imperia

GDI AUSTIN | SPECIAL EVENTS & BOOKING
www.47party.com | 512-47-PARTY | events@47party.com



CLUB LISTINGS FROM SUNDAY

EMO'S Inside: J. Be, Prayer for Animals, Haunting Oboe Music, the Always Already; Outside: Woven Bones, Elvis, Christian Bland, the Tunnels

FRANK ERWIN CENTER Trans-Siberian Orchestra (3:00, 7:30)

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam (8:00)

GARRISON PARK HARBOR Patterson Barrett, Jimi Lee

GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL McKay Bros. (12:30), Sarah Pierce (5:00)

HEADHUNTERS Horse Opera, the Original Mexican Bob

HOLE IN THE WALL Mrs. Glass, Nathan Singleton, Slowtrain (9:00)

JOVITA'S The Brew (7:00)

LAMBERTS Ephraim Owens, Brannen Temple, Red Young (7:00)

LATITUDE 30 Luke Jackson (9:00)

MANUELS Son y No Son (11:30am)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers (12:30)

MEAN-EYED CAT Bear & the Essentials (8:00)

MEMORY LANE EVENT CENTER Wimberley Montessori School Benefit w/ Warren Hood, Charlie Sexton, Brian Standerfer, Alejandro Escovedo (4:00)

MOHAWK Explosion Horse, Butcher Bear's Rainbow Bus Band, Follow That Bird!, Serious Tracers

MOMO'S Geron Hoy, LeveL Hill (8:00)

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Open Mic w/ Chris Davis (4:00)

NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am)

THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS Open Mic (4:00)

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED 7 Inside: The Kickback, Al Shire & the Henchmen, Los Hispanos UK, Low Down Shaky Chill; Outside: Unwed Fathers, Saw Wheel, Stallone, the Anchor, the Measure

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen

RUTA MAYA Monster Big Band (10:00)

SAXON PUB The Resentments, Bobby Whitlock & CoCo Carmel, the Salingers (7:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D

STUBB'S The Bells of Joy (noon)

THINGS CELTIC Celtic Song Session (2:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 360 Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE AT THE GROVE Jukebox Heroes

Z'TEJAS Trés

MON 05

ANTONE'S Flyjack (8:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Heard Showcase

BEERLAND World-Famous Karaoke

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ A.J. Kline (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Marshall Ford Swing Band (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

CORK & CO. Open Mic w/ Rocking G. (7:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Bruce Smith (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Leah Zeger (6:00), Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

EMO'S Outside: Li'l Cap'n Travis, Courses & Angles, Stereo Is a Lie, Abby Birds; Inside: Sad Accordions, Masonic, Frank Smith, Booher & the Turkeys, Zookeeper

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux (6:30)

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T. Jarrod Bonta (8:00)

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HEADHUNTERS Contrabandits

HOLE IN THE WALL Claire Small, the Shake 'Em Ups, Leo Rondeau (9:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUCKY LOUNGE The Other Dudes, the Spoiled, Beaux Loy (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

MOHAWK The Bread, the Harlequins, Bridge Farmers

MOMO'S Jesse Sublett & Jon Dee Graham Murder Show, Freedy Johnston, Ben Mallot, Izzy Cox (7:00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson & Joley Flowers

THE PARLOR Magic Jewels, Blackie (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Ru Coleman & Texas Boogie

RED 7 By a Long Shot, Myth & Legend, Fire From the Gods

RED FEZ Komson (10:00)

ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System (8:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Stormy Monday Open Blues Jam w/ Breck (8:00)

SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician, Arthur Brown, Jeff Plankenhorn, Nathan Hubble (7:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Brent Wood

SPEAKEASY Chad Taylor

TRIPLE CROWN Gerry's Kids, Doomsday Device (6:00)

TUE 06

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan (10:30)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

BEERLAND Safety in Numbers Showcase

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ A.J. Kline (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Billy Garza

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Coffee Sergeants (7:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Elmo & Charlie (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Planet Casper (6:30), David Garza (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Anthony Farrell & Josh Perdue; Carter, Sexton, & Doster

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith w/ Jon Doyle (6:00), Tony Campise (9:30)

ELYSIUM '90s Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

See **austinchronicle.com** *for complete listings.*



LIVE MUSIC CAPITAL OF SAN MARCOS

TRIPLE CROWN

(512) 396-2236 / triplecrownlive.com

Th 1	Robbie Doyen 6pm Free Juke Box & Free Pool 8pm
Fr 2	Rabb Rodriguez y los Killa' Hogs 6pm Javi Garcia, Shotgun Hustler 9pm
Sa 3	Word Association 10pm
Su 4	Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 8pm
Mo 5	Gerry's Kids 6pm Doomsday Device 9pm
Tu 6	Beth Lee 6pm Free Juke Box & Free Pool 8pm
We 7	RG Stark 6pm Free Juke Box & Free Pool 8pm

the Peacock Lounge

Happy Hour
$1 off All Mixed Drinks and Bottled Beer
Until 9PM Every Night

Martini Monday
$3 Tito's Martinis All Night

Tuesday
$3 Well Drinks All Night

Boilermaker Wednesday
$5 for a Lone Star Pint and Whiskey Shot

Thursday Industry Night
Happy Hour Prices All Night
$1 off All Mixed Drinks and Bottled Beer

Sunday
$3 Margaritas

All Day, Every Day
$2 Lone Star Pints

New Year's Eve
GREAT GATSBY PARTY
No Cover, Free Champagne Toast

515 Pedernales (corner of E. 6th)
Fri 7PM to 2AM, Sat – Thurs 8PM to 2AM
www.peacock-austin.com

Riley's TAVERN SINCE 1933

WED 12/31 NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH JOEL HOFMANN
FREE CHAMPAGNE TOAST

SUN 1/4 OPEN MIC WITH GLENN ALLEN

TUE 1/6 DALE WATSON

8894 FM 1102 · HUNTER, TX · 512.392.3132
WWW.RILEYSTAVERN.COM



Volunteers earn perks to attend SXSW

Sign up now at **http://volunteer.sxsw.com** and attend one of the 2009 Volunteer Calls.

Email **volunteer@sxsw.com** for more info.

SXSW Volunteer Call 2009
Sunday, January 25th, 2:00-5:00pm
Monday, January 26th, 6:00-9:00pm
Hilton Hotel, 500 E 4th St
Governor's Ballroom, 4th Floor

Cheatham Street WAREHOUSE
Austin's far-out music hall in San Marcos
www.cheathamstreet.com

WE *New Years Eve*
WITH KYLE PARK
TEXAS FX OPENING
"GOOD LUCK" BLACK-EYED PEAS
SERVED AT MIDNIGHT

TH CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY!
FR MIDNIGHT RIVER CHOIR
SA JASON MARBACH BAND
SU TEXAS FX

COMING SOON 01/09 DOCTOR G AND THE MUDCATS
01/16 WALT WILKINS & FRIENDS

119 CHEATHAM ST., SAN MARCOS 512-353-3777

2009 AUSTIN EVENT CALENDAR
www.AustinFunStuff.com

Poodie's Hilltop ROADHOUSE No Bad Days

Friday, Jan. 2
MIKE MYERS
ROB CHAMBERS OPENER

Saturday, Jan. 3
BAND OF HEATHENS
WYNN TAYLOR OPENER

Thursday, Jan. 8 • 8-10pm
J & L BROTHERS

Friday Jan. 9
SONS OF REVOLUTION
RU COLMAN & TX. BOOGIE OPENER

Sat., Jan. 10
LEE PERSON
W/ BETH BLACK

Mon. FOOTBALL ON BIG SCREENS
RU COLEMAN & TEXAS BOOGIE
Tues. THE TROUBADILLOS
Wed. OPEN MIC W/ RU COLEMAN
Thu. LADIES' NIGHT - FREE POOL
$2 WELL DRINKS & DOMESTIC BEERS & $1 1ST
DRINK FOR LADIES W/ OUT OF TOWN DRIVERS LICENSES

Hwy 71 West • 264-0318
SPICEWOOD, TX Free WiFi
www.poodies.com
BEST DRESSED BURGER IN A COSMIC COWBOY HONKY TONK
– 'AUSTIN CHRONICLE' RESTAURANT POLL 2006

CLUB LISTINGS FROM TUESDAY

EMO'S Inside: Shitty Car Wash, Full Stride, Black Earth, High Watt Crucifixers; Outside: Gleeson, Militant Babies, Moonlight Towers, the Bremen Riot

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh (6:00), Kevin Gallaugher, Greg Anderson (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes Band (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Jim Stringer (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Chip Dolan & Marvin Dykhuis (6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HEADHUNTERS Bill Davis, Ashire, Silent Alarm Activated, the Lovers

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bill Rice

HOLE IN THE WALL Roger Wallace, Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business (9:00)

JOVITA'S Moon Howlers (8:00)

KEY BAR Jukebox Heroes (8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LAMBERTS Glover Tango (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Rapid Ric, Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa (10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Tumbleweed Racer (7:00)

MOHAWK Baby Robots, Frantic Clam (10:00)

MOMO'S Castro's Band, Jeremy Nail, Canopy, Goldcure

ONE 2 ONE BAR Noble Dog, In the Round w/ Wayne Sutton (6:00)

THE PARLOR Plutonium Farmers, Ralph White (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos

RED 7 Eagle Claw, Radioland Murders, the Roller, Johnny Gobbs, Watching the Moon, Pack of Wolves, Scorpion Child

RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)

ROOM 710 Grave Robber

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Erin & Michael (9:00)

SAXON PUB Robbie & the Rogues (5:00), Shurman, Bruce Hughes, Austin Collins (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Five Ways From Sunday

SNAKE EYES VINYL Video Disease, Naw Dude, White Dog, Time Bombs, the Dry Heaves (6:00)

SPEAKEASY Paul Klemperer (9:30)

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Paul

TRIPLE CROWN Beth Lee (6:00)

TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Sunny Fairly

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET Will Dunlap (7:00)

WATERLOO RECORDS The Gourds (5:00)

WED 07

ACES LOUNGE Jumping From Jets (7:00)

AMSTERDAM CAFE Austin Songwriters Group Open Mic (6:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King (7:30)

AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons w/ Tony Harrison (6:00), Dale Watson (8:00)







606 E 7th St. ★ 480.5988

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE

Mon-Fri 5pm ★ Sat-Sun 4pm
HH til 9pm & All night Thr

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
DJ'S Element, Baby G, Orion, & Pagame
@ THE LOUNGE - NO COVER

CREEKSIDE LIVE

NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW
10PM Taddy Porter, Derty Bird
The Sideshow Tragedy
MIDNIGHT WHISKEY TOAST

THR JAN 1/1
10PM Castro's Beard
The Lovers, His Astro Turban

FRI JAN 1/2
10PM Tiana Hux, GlasGlow Smile
The Window Silouette, Power Squid

SAT JAN 1/3
10PM Jeremy Nail & the Incidents
Feathers Fahrenheit, Lo-Fi, I'd Die For

WED JAN 1/7
10PM When Cougars Attack
Fire Horse, Isaac the Blind

THR JAN 1/8
10PM Casetta, The Lusitania
Westbound Departure, Shake Shake Bottoms

UPCOMING SHOWS
1/9 Secret Show, 1/10 Street Light Suzy, 1/16 Baby Dick, 1/17 Masonic

Booking Thr 3-6pm 480.5988
WoodyBooking@TheCreeksideLounge.com
★ THECREEKSIDELOUNGE.COM ★

THE RED RIVER DISTRICT
LIVE MUSIC 7 days a week

NOW OPEN EARLIER!
5PM-2AM M-F
7PM-2AM SAT & SUN

the side bar
(EVERYBODY NEEDS A LITTLE ON THE SIDE)

602 EAST 7TH ST.
322.0697
WWW.THESIDEBARAUSTIN.COM

Beauty BAR

DECEMBER
12/31 NEW YEARS EVE PARTY
INSIDE - DJ MEL
STRANGE BOYS
W/DANS LA LUNE
& THE UGLY BEATS
THE BOXING LESSON / PETALS
FREE FREE JANUARY FREE FREE
1/3 THE LOW LOWS
NEW ROMAN TIMES / DJ TDA
SHUTTLE DEBRIS / RAGE RANGER
MY LIFE ON FILM / THE GREEN
VOTED #1 BIKE RACK IN AUSTIN
BOOKING HOLIDAY PARTIES
617 E 7th myspace.com/beautybaraustin
www.beautybar.com 512.391.1943

HEADHUNTERS

720 Red River www.headhuntersclub.com (512) 236-0188
12/31(W) "HAPPY NEW YEARS AUSTIN TX" AMPLIFIED HEAT, YEAR OF THE KID, WOLFDOG, ARARAT FOOD~DJ EXStUS, TAROT, HOOKAH & MID-TOAST!
1/1(T) SILLY GOOSE DOCUMENTS & LOUNGE DRINK SPECIALS!
1/2(F) YAYO, NICKOLLI CADE CONSPIRACY, THESE CITY LIGHTS, WOLFDOG, (P)MAIFESTO
1/3(S) HAMMERDOG, BUTCHERWHITE.CAPITAL CITY OUTLAWS, (P)FOCUSSYN, NFL PLAYOFF GAMES(P)
1/4(S) ATOMIC HONKY TONK~THE ORIGINAL MEXICAN BOB, HORSE OPERA, BUCKEYE, NFL PLAYOFF GAME(P)
1/5(M) KONTRABANDITS, SIN NIGHT SPECIALS~MELLOW MONDAYS
1/6(T) THE LOVERS, SILENT ALARM ACTIVATED, ASHIRE, MATT FROM DUKE, BILL DAVIS SINGERS/SONGWRITERS(P)
1/7(W) EVOLUCID, GIRLZ WILL BE BOYZ, MATTS OPEN MIC(P)

ROOM 710

710 Red River St.
476-0997
21+ Up
room710.net
Lounge Side + Stage Side = Frigging Original

Thu 1.1
DUKE
HAZARD OF THE INDUSTRY
SHRINER THREAT
ET AL

Fri 1.2
HIT BY A CAR
MICAH & the MUTANTS
ZENITH FUZZBOMB
8pm: Wolfdog

Sat 1.3
Brad's Birthday Feast
MAELSTROM
HOD
ROGER'S PORN COLLECTION

Sun 1.4
CLOSED
LOOKING PRETTY

Mon 1.5
HEART & SOUL
SOUND SYSTEM

Tue 1.6
Rock
GRAVE ROBBER Jam
GLAM BILLY
EVIL COME, EVIL GO

Wed 1.7
OPEN
GETTING DIRTY

UPCOMING SHOWS
1.8 Vows In Ashes, Muerte 1.9 Eddie, Sober Daze, Criminal Mischief
1.10 Foot Patrol, Big Mess, Baby Got Bacteria 1.11 Sabbath Crow, Carbellion

BEER LAND TEXAS

711 1/2 RED RIVER 479-ROCK

we 31 closed-- we're at Rio Rita, Shangri-La, & the Good Knight-join us!

th 1 FREE SHOW-The Modern Fuckers, The Man Stamps, WhiteGuilt

fr 2 FREE SHOW--Blow Hole, The Stuffies, The Dickins, Get to Da Choppa

sa 3 FREE SHOW- Flametrick Subs, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5, Izzy Cox

su 4 FREE SHOW--Chicken Ranch presents

mo 5 FREE SHOW-- BEERLAND'S LEGENDARY ROCK N ROLL KARAOKE!

tu 6 Safety in Numbers-Ted Hadji, Jack Smith, Daniel Schaetz, Adam Hilton, John Vinyard

BROWSE OUR INTERACTIVE WEBSITE @
BEERLANDTEXAS.COM
& CHECK OUT A BAND YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE

RED EYED FLY

Live Music
715 RED RIVER AUSTIN, TEXAS
WWW.REDEYEDFLY.COM

THURSDAY-JANUARY 1
THE STAMPEDE
THE SILLY GOOSE DOCUMENTS
AGAINST THE ARCHAIC
ONE LAST CLEANSING

FRIDAY-JANUARY 2
TRASHY & THE KID
AUTOMATIC CYCLE
HIGH LINES
THE STOICS
EL CHARCO

SATURDAY-JANUARY 3
SAD WINGS
DRIFTER
CAPRICORN USA
SUICIDE SOLUTION

SUNDAY-JANUARY 4
FOUR FOOT PORCH
DAGGERS & ROYALISTS
PAROUS
THE SHARK THAT ATE ME

MONDAY-JANUARY 5
PURE LUCK MONDAYS
FREE COVER MUSIC STARTS AT 9PM
$2 LONE STAR $3 JIM BEAN

TUESDAY-JANUARY 6
STUCK IN CHICAGO
AWKWARD ROCKET
VENSON'S FIXINS

WEDNESDAY-JANUARY 7
RAINBOWGLOW SYMPHONY
ELERY WHITE
DYING FOR MORE
EISENHEIM

THURSDAY-JANUARY 8
THANKS FOR THE WARNING
GREAT AMERICAN FREEDOM MACHINE
PAPERWORK
SARAH & OCTOPUS

FRIDAY-JANUARY 9
BENEFIT FOR STEVE MOORE
SSIK
BROKEN TEETH
ADRENALINE FACTOR

SATURDAY-JANUARY 10
BRINK OF DISASTER
SCRAPS OF LIFE
LUG
KEEFER
SHINING PATH

UPCOMING SHOWS
01/16 - RENEGADES OF DISASTER CITY, THE BANNER YEAR
01/17 - SIXES & EIGHTS, DEAF EARS, MR. LEWIS & THE FUNERAL 5
01/23 - PREY FOR SLEEP, BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY
01/24 - SCOTT H. BIRAN
PURE LUCK MONDAYS IN JANUARY, FREE SHOW EVERY MONDAY
$2.00 LONESTAR TALL BOYS AND $3.00 JIM BEAM

for private parties and info call: 512-474-1084

ELYSIUM

705 RED RIVER ST.

Thursday • Jan 1 SPECIAL EVENT!
Have a Nice Day
60's & 70's Funk, R&B, Soul & Disco
with DJ SETH

Friday • Jan 2 LIVE MUSIC!
Chloe Day 12 AM
www.myspace.com/chloeday
gfire 11 PM
www.myspace.com/djgfire

Saturday • Jan 3 HAVEN
goth, INDUSTRIAL, synthpop, & EURODANCE
HAVEN WITH DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER

Sunday • Jan 4 REGRESSION
RETRO 80's RETRO 80's RETRO 80's
REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Tuesday • Jan 6 CLOSED
...processing...

Wednesday • Jan 7 MID-WAVE
UNDERGROUND retro & OLD SCHOOL goth
WITH DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & EDMINISTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thu. Jan 8 • *Live!* The Clouds Are Ghosts 1 AM Rescue Mission 12 AM, Low Technicians 11 PM Dichotomy 10 PM

Fri. Jan 9 • *Live!* The Dry Season 12 AM

Thu. Jan 15 • *Live!* The Triggermen 12 AM

Fri. Jan 16 • *Live!* DE/VISION, SEABOUND, IRIS - tickets available now at Secret Oktober

Tue. Jan 20 • *Live!* COMBICHRIST w/ Blacklight Burns &Retard-O-Bot

Fri. Jan 23 • *Live!* Lucid Dementia 12 AM Kraked Surface 11 PM, The Future Process 10 PM

Thu. Jan 29 • *Live!* Tombstone Union 12 AM Oddika 11 PM, Bound 10 PM

21+ only • doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified
more detailed information available at:
www.elysiumonline.net • (512) 478-2979
• www.myspace.com/elysiumaustin •

AUSTIN DAZE PRESENTS
RutaMaya WEEKENDS

THURS 1/1 HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE AUSTIN DAZE

FRI 1/2 CELEBRATE RICKEY CAESAR'S BIRTHDAY!!
CAESAR BROTHERS FUNKBOX
FEATURING TRINI2 AND DAMON NEVILLE AKA NEXUS AND SOUL KITCHEN
9:30PM–2AM

SAT 1/3 "NEVER GET BUSTED"
WITH BARRY AND CANDY
FEATURING BLOOD DIAMONDZ
9:30PM–2AM

www.myspace.com/rutamayaweekends
3601 S. Congress, Suite D 200, Penn Field, South Austin, (Behind Expose), 512-707-9637, Rutamaya.net for details

RutaMaya

SUN 1/4 FREE KIDS SHOW 10:30 AM EVERY SUNDAY
Big Band Hits of 30's, 40's & 50's
Monster Big Band
Get Your Swing on at 7 PM

MON 1/5 7 PM Dub Transistor
Chill Night Pint Night
FREE! No Cover!!

TUE 1/6 TUESDAY OPEN MIKE - NO COVER!
6 PM Poetry - 9 PM Music
Happy Hour All Night Long!

WED 1/7 CUBAN DANCE NIGHT
FREE Salsa Lesson 7:30 PM
Live Salsa 9 PM with CIENFUEGOS

Fresh Organic Coffee!
FREE YOGA - Check Online Calendar

CHRONIC

EARACHE! justifies checking out one **TOP 10** this year:

"The holidays are jammed with as many **Top 10 lists** as there are stars in the heavens or musicians in Austin or epithets in *Scarface*. But when it comes to the holidays, we always turn back to the late, great **BBC 1** deejay **John Peel**, whose heart skipped a beat (and then another and then all of them) just more than four years back."

– MARC SAVLOV

austinchronicle.com/chronic

THE CHRONICLE

JOIN THE SEARCH FOR AUSTIN'S FAVORITE AMATEUR DANCER!
Stripper Idol
AMATEUR TALENT SEARCH
WIN $500
EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT
THURSDAY IS LADIES NITE! LADIES GET IN FREE ALL NITE!
PALAZIO AUSTIN TEXAS
501 BEN WHITE
445-6655

CLUB LISTINGS FROM WEDNESDAY

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE Jacinta (7:00)

CLUB DE VILLE The Great Nostalgic, Model U.N.

THE COCKPIT Club Inclusive w/ Julie Nolan (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Hot Club of Cowtown (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:00)

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Isaac the Blind, Fire Horse, When Cougars Attack

CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)

DARWIN'S PUB Johnny Austin (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Albert & Gage

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Nakia, Anthony Farrell (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Ephraim Owens Quartet (9:30)

EMO'S Inside: Selenese, Black Cock, My Education, Eagle Claw, the Diagonals, When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth; Outside: The Altars, Iron Age, Unit 21, World Burns to Death

FLAMINGO CANTINA Heat Machine (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00)

HEADHUNTERS Matt's Open Mic, Girlz Will Be Boyz, Evolucid

HOLE IN THE WALL Darren Hoff & the Hard Times, Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings, JWW & the Prospectors (10:00)

JOVITA'S Haydn Vitera (7:00)

KEY BAR Matt Wilson (8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LAMBERTS The Moonhangers (7:00)

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Red Young (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Jam Session w/ Lance & Tyler, Melody Murder (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem (9:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT The Drakes (8:00)

MOHAWK The Tunnels, Strange Attractors, Tia Carrera (10:00)

MOMO'S Nathan Hubble, Kalu James, Allen Daniels (7:00)

MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Clay Jefferies (8:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR 80H Project (10:00)

PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)

PLUSH Weight w/ the Herd

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Ru Coleman (8:00)

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED 7 Inside: Yayo; Outside: Opposite Day, Muchos Backflips, Fatback Circus, Super Lite Bike

RED EYED FLY Dying for More

ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D.

RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons, Cienfuegos (7:30)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Radiostar

SHINER'S SALOON Jeremy Steding (10:30)

SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons, the Brew (9:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Idgy Vaughn, Amy Speace, Danny Schmidt (8:00)

TRIPLE CROWN R.G. Stark (6:00)

TROPHY'S Aeriel Victory, Sheboygan, Ichi Ni San Shi

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE 38TH STREET Ptarmigan (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Will Sexton, Stephen Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)

THU 08

311 CLUB Joe Valentine (9:30)

AMSTERDAM CAFE Kent Mayhew, Joey Lavallee (9:00)

ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Andrea Marie (7:30)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Airoldi's Gypsy Jazz (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Neal Kassanoff, Philosopher Gun, the Richards, Colin Sweitek (8:00)

BEERLAND Tenlons Fort

THE BELMONT Mandy Lauderdale (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton

CAROUSEL LOUNGE David Melber's Elvis Birthday Show

CLUB DE VILLE Peel, Haunting Oboe Music, Loxsly (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Woodsboss, Kathleen Edwards, Tom Gilliam (10:00)

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Shake Shake Bottoms, Westbound Departure, the Lusitania, Cassette

DONN'S DEPOT Kenny & Matt

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

EMO'S Inside: The Blacks, Ume, Harlem, El Paso Hot Button; Outside: Send Help, Ghost Knife, Deskonocidos, Broken Gold, Off With Their Heads

FLAMINGO CANTINA Ryan Young, the Echo Vine, Tribella (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)

GARRISON PARK HARBOR Li'l Steph & the Chromatics

GIDDY UPS Mike Morgan (5:30), Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon (8:30)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Robbie & the Rogues (9:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Suede Uppers, Thunderchiefs, the Bellfuries (10:00)

HOUSE WINE Kelly Mickwee (6:00)

JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

LAMBERTS DJ Mel (10:30)

LATITUDE 30 Jordan Tanner (9:00)

THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic w/ Blue Rail (7:00)

LOVEJOYS Prison Folk Rock

LUCKY LOUNGE Eagle Pritchard Murray, MC Overlord (10:00)

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL LC Rocks

MOHAWK Dikes of Holland, Air Traffic Controllers, Homopolice (9:00)

MOMO'S Robin Smith, Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Sideshow Tramps

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Zapata! (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL J&L Brothers (8:00)

RED 7 Dead Earth Politics, Shrapnel, Within Chaos, Mock Tigers, West Coast Pinups, the Action Is, Dixie Witch, Amplified Heat

RED FEZ DJ Rapid Ric, Mike Maven & the Good Life (8:30)

ROOM 710 Muerte, Vows in Ashes

RUTA MAYA Sugarback, Mister Moot (8:00)

SAXON PUB James Hand (6:00), Patrice Pike, Joy Davis, Uncle Lucius, Kory Montgomery (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL Rat Ranch

SPEAKEASY Subrosa Union (9:30)

STUBB'S The Heyday, Sons of William

T.C.'S LOUNGE Leeann Atherton's Blues (10:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Joel Hofmann Band, Total Faggots, Chief Fuzzer, Pure Luck

TROPHY'S Two Hoots & a Holler

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE DOWNTOWN The Hudsons (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Slim Richey's Dream Band

404 E HIGHLAND MALL BLVD AUSTIN, TX
512.451.1711WWW.SUGARSPERFECT.COM

Sugar's UPTOWN CABARET™



3 MILLIONTH CUSTOMER GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY
- Lifetime VIP Membership
- Bottle of Choice
- Embroidered Sugar's Jacket
- Free Lapdance from Every Entertainer in the House

KEY PER DAY GIVEAWAY
- Win a Trip to Las Vegas. Do you hold the lucky key?

$3.99 STEAK & FRIES
EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY

WEDNESDAYS:
COUNTRY WESTERN NIGHT
Tight Jeans Contest

RESERVE YOUR TABLE FOR NEW YEARS EVE

FREE FRIDAY SUPER BUFFET
with this ad before noon

LATE NIGHT MENU
10PM-1AM

1/2 LB STEAK& FRIES $5
Half pound sirloin grilled to order and fresh french fries

BUFFALO WINGS $5
Spicy chick wings served with ranch dressing

CHICKEN NACHOS $5
Fajita chicken on our piled high bean and cheese nachos

CHEESEBURGER & FRIES $5
1/3 pound ground sirloin grilled to order with all the fixings

BREAKFAST TACOS $5
Three egg tacos, one with bacon, one with potato and one with chorizo. Any combination. Salsa on the side.

HOME OF THE UFC



Perfect 10 Men's Club

16511 BRATTON LANE AUSTIN, TX
512.238.7700 WWW.SUGARSPERFECT.COM

XTC cabaret

18 & UP | B.Y.O.B.

$10 COVER WITH COUPON ON WEDNESDAY

$2.99 STEAK & FRIES UNTIL 6pm

MONDAY NIGHT MADNESS
$5 DANCES
7 - 11PM

TUESDAYS & SUNDAYS
$10 DANCES

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
OIL WRESTLING
MATCHES AT
10:30PM & 12:30AM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

$10 COVER
OPEN TO 10PM

$10 ENTERTAINER HOUSE FEES
6PM TO 9PM

OUR GIRLS PARTY NAKED
3501 Andtree Blvd. • 512.929.3558

ADULT SERVICES









ESCORTS

EYE CANDY
Quickies, Fantasies, Bodyrubs & More In/Out 24/7
(512)586-7965

FOR A GOOD TIME
Call 512-552-2328

XXX SHE-MALE
Olivia 699-7630

HOT
North Location
512.496.6584

SULTRY 40'S FEMALE,
Delightful, upscale, sensual rub. Private & professional, 619-9079, Gwyneth.

MAN 4 MAN
XX FULL SERVICE XX
****DISCRETE LOCATION****
COUPLES WELCOME! In/out
24/7/365 Dan 512-739-2615

TEMPTATIONS LINGERIE
• Lingerie
• Adult Novelties
• Fetish Modeling
• Gifts
Open 11am-3am
7 days a week
NOW HIRING
422-7488
15605 Connie St.
512-284-9300
temptationsmodeling.com

ADULT PLEASURES
Great Hands! Total Satisfaction! BBW In/Out 24/7, 662-0471.

SEXY SOCCER MOM
Very Sexy, Very attractive, Very busty
Home Alone All Day!
CALL 512-963-1705

KINKY CUTIE
Anything Goes!
My Kinky Play Will Freak U Out! In/Out 24/7
(512)497-4749

SWEDISH, SWEET
Light touch. Full body rub. Exquisite, Feels so good. Tel:441-4019 In calls only

RUBDOWNS PRIVATE ROOMS NEW GIRLS & GUYS!
Mon-Thu 10am-2am
Fri-Sat til 3am, Sun Noon-1am, Daily Specials before 6!
SUNDAY $10 OFF ALL DAY!
(512) 369-3873

A.G.P
www.Austinagp.com
(512)680-9213

PRETTY 36-D!
SLENDER BRUNETTE
346-3333

PRETTY
North Location
512.563.7753

SENSUAL CARAMEL
Exotic, Sexy, Island Beauty, 5'5" 38c 24 36
24/7 In/Out 902-4345

BEST PRICES
Service as you like it. Attractive, friendly, inshape.
(512) 342-8164

DOLL HOUSE
Gentlemen & Couples Welcome
EVERYDAY SPECIALS!
Hwy 183 @ Duval
345-9445
Open 10am - 3am
AMEX/VISA/MC
"We aim to please"

LISA MARIE 24/7 IN/OUT 659-6469

HEAD DOCTOR IN CHARGE
5'8" 145lbs, Dirty Blonde, Green Eyes, 22yrs. In/Out
Amelia (972)814-9250

SPICE GIRL
South, near Downtown
512.506.1125

SWEET SEXY BRUNETTE
Soft, Silky Skin, 125 lbs. 38D, 5'5, 40's, In Call Only
Great Hills 844-9367

DREAM
North Location
*** 512-789-9950 ***

EBONY BABYDOLL
5'3" 115lbs, 18yrs old
In/Out 24/7
Sadae (972)897-4562

ENTERTAINMENT

WHERE SINGLES MEET
Listen & Respond FREE!
(512)457-1900
18+. Free Code 7253
1,000's of Local Singles
www.megamates.com

SEXY URBAN SINGLES!
18+ Try it FREE! Chat NOW!
512-381-2424
210-447-0101
Hook-up now!

MEN CALL
1-800-373-DATE .69
Ladies Talk to Men Nationwide
1-800-856-TALK FREE!

Looking for someone special? FREE w/Code 4829
Call 512-735-0000
or 800-300-0301
www.tangopersonals.com

100's of SPANISH Singles!
18+ try it FREE!!
512-692-1700
210-579-0808
361-561-6262

MEET AUSTIN LOCALS
Listen & Respond FREE!
(512)457-1900
18+ Free Code 7254
www.megamates.com

All HOT SEXY BABES talk dirty on After Hours! 18+
512-381-0101
210-447-2020
361-561-2020

Chat in Austin
HOT LOCAL SINGLES 18+ try it FREE
512-474-1111
210-457-1111
361-561-4400

WHERE 2 GUYS MEET
GAY & BI VOICE PERSONALS
Listen & Respond to ALL ads FREE!
(512)480-8400
18+, Free Code 5719
www.megamates.com

#1 SEXIEST Chat!
Join the party with local singles
FREE to try! 18+
512-493-0000
210-477-1500
361-561-4040

HOT LOCAL GUY LINE!
Listen & Respond to ALL ads FREE!
(512)480-8400
18+, Free Code 5718
www.megamates.com

Absolutely HOT chat! 18+
FREE to try!
Locals singles waiting!
512-474-1111
210-457-1111
361-561-4400








RAMESSES I
LIGHT TOUCH RUBDOWNS • PRIVATE ROOMS
DAILY SPECIALS BEFORE 6PM!
512 369-3873
MON-THU 10AM-2AM
FRI/SAT 10AM-3AM (STOP BY AFTER LAST CALL!)
SUN NOON-1AM
NEW LOCATION!
3209 VALLEY PIKE
NEW MANAGEMENT!
NEW YOUNG HANDSOME MEN
ALSO AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT


Temptations Lingerie
Come be tempted
LINGERIE & FETISH MODELING & GIFTS
ARE YOU ON THE NAUGHTY LIST?
COME GET TWICE THE NICE FOR HALF THE PRICE
1/2 OFF YOUR SECOND VISIT
12/17/08-01/05/09
NOW HIRING 512.422.7488 temptationsmodeling.com
15605 Connie St. • 512.284.9300


GET INTO THE
HOLIDAY SWING
WITH A TURN ON TO EASY STREET
If you're looking for a relationship that's a bit...unconventional, you need to turn on to Easy Street. 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, you can meet real people from right here in Austin who share your interests and lifestyle. Browse ads, looks at pictures, read profiles – all absolutely free. So don't dream about it, do it.
Plus, if you place a profile with a picture by 5pm, Monday, January 5, you'll be automatically entered to win a $150 PRIZE PACKAGE from FORBIDDEN FRUIT!
THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com/easystreet


RICK
NASDAQ
LISTED
AUSTIN'S ONLY 2 STORY CABARET
Ricks
CABARET
AUSTIN
LOCO WEDNESDAY
$3 PATRON & $3 CORONA ALL DAY & NIGHT
OLD SCHOOL SATURDAY
$3 CROWN & $3 GREY GOOSE OPEN TIL CLOSE
$3 WELLS | $4 CALLS | $5 PREMIUMS
FROM OPEN TO 9PM EVERYDAY
$5.99 8oz STEAK & JUMBO SHRIMP
$10 DANCES SUNDAY & MONDAY
$10 DANCES OPEN TO 4PM EVERYDAY
AUSTIN • SAN ANTONIO • DALLAS • HOUSTON • FORT WORTH • PHILADELPHIA • LAS VEGAS • NEW ORLEANS • MINNEAPOLIS • CHARLOTTE • MIAMI • NEW YORK CITY
8110 SPRINGDALE ROAD • 512.929.3939
Visit our Website at www.ricks.com and for an Investor Relations Packet, please email ir@ricks.com.

AAA News XXXcite! AAA News XXXcite! AAA News XXXcite! AAA News XXXcite! AAA News

Four Convenient Locations • Best Prices • MC/Visa/Amex/Disc Discreet Processing • 10% Military Discount

Visit www.aaanews.com & www.xxxcite.biz for more info!



Austin's Best Toy Selection for Hot, Loving Couples and Do-It-Yourselfers!

END OF YEAR - 50% OFF CLEARANCE SALE!!

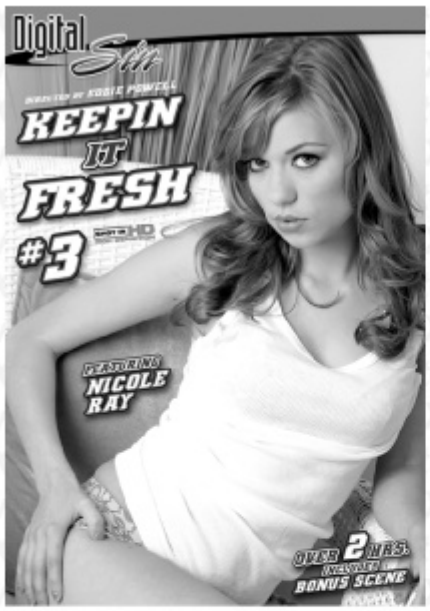
Top Studios! Beautiful Babes! Terrific Prices!



Thousands of New Movies from Top Studios with the Hottest Starlets from Around the World!

Were $30 to $40, NOW $15 to $20!!

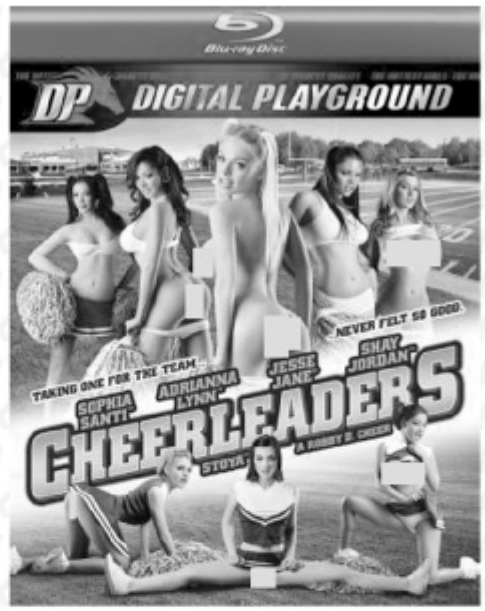
Check the Deal! This Sale Will Blow You Away!



Check out the newest Starlets on DVD! New Releases Daily!



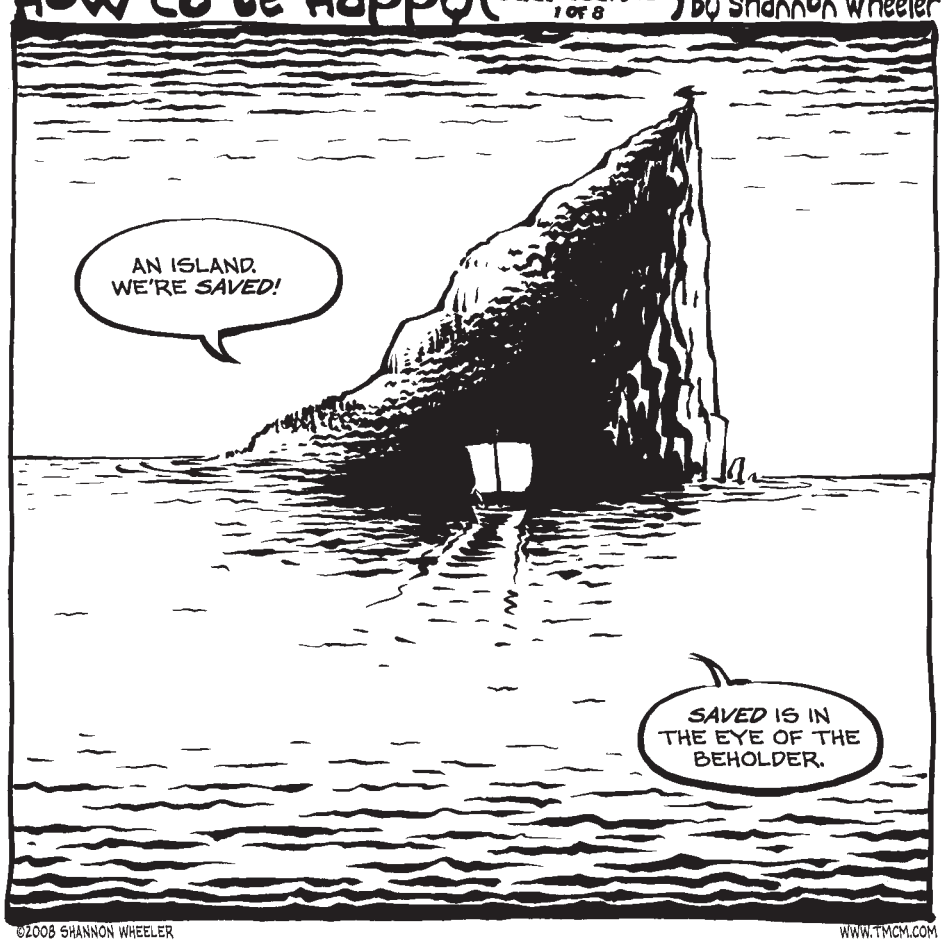
All Lubes 20% OFF!!



Need Blu-rays for Your New Player? Check our Selection!

AAA NEWS NORTH	AAA NEWS SOUTH	XXXcite! NORTH	XXXcite! SOUTH
11657 Research	6524 S. Congress	15316 N. IH 35	2055 S. Lamar
Near Duval	N of Wm. Cannon	At Marker 248	at Oltorf
343-1195	445-6116	990-2144	440-8626

How to Be Happy (UGLY ISLAND 1 OF 8) by Shannon Wheeler



©2008 SHANNON WHEELER

WWW.TMCM.COM

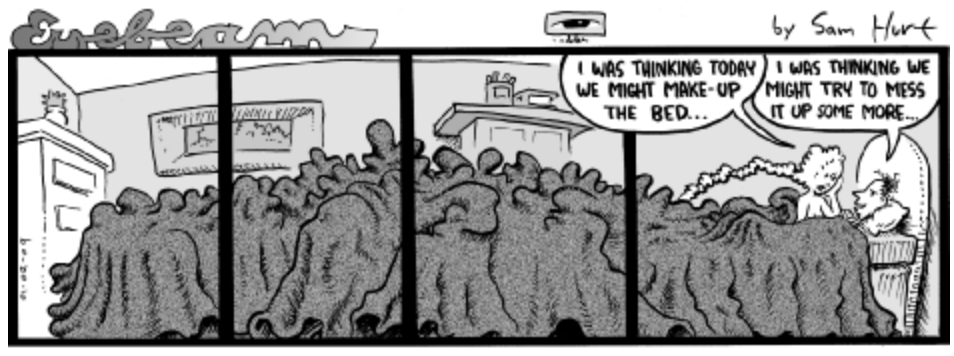


TROUBLETOWN — THE CITIZEN AND HIS BANKER

BY LLOYD DANGLE



©2009 TROUBLETOWN.COM



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



Wonder why Ph.D.s call themselves "doctors"? The word "doctor" comes from the Latin verb *docere*, meaning to teach.

Researcher Arlan Edgar once observed a pair of daddy longlegs mate 29 times in 2½ hours.

Refrigerators account for almost 15% of the average home's electricity use.

When Ludwig van Beethoven was 7, his father put him on display in a concert and for good measure advertised him as age 6, the same as Mozart when he became famous. Nothing came of it, but this confused Beethoven about his age for the rest of his life.

In Maine, the new speaker of the House, the new president of the Senate, the new attorney general, the chief justice of the Supreme Court, two U.S. senators, and the newest U.S. House member are all women.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle*, or e-mail* **mrpants@austinchronicle.com**.

TRADE UP CLASSIFIEDS

454-5767

austinchronicle.com/tradeup

100 JOBS
110 Art/Design
115 Beauty/Salon/Spa
120 Entertainment/ Casting
125 General
130 Healthcare
135 Hospitality
140 Legal
145 Office/Clerical
150 Non-Profit
155 Professional
160 Research Study
165 Retail
170 Sales/Marketing
175 School/Training
180 Technical

200 HOUSING
210 Reader Notice
215 Apartment/ Condo/Townhome
220 Duplex/Houses
225 Vacation
230 Commercial
235 Roommates
240 Real Estate For Sale

300 BUY/SELL/ TRADE
310 Antiques/ Collectibles
315 Appliances
320 Baby/Kids Stuff
325 Clothing
330 Computers
335 Electronics
340 Free Stuff
345 Furniture
350 Garage/ Estate Sales
355 General
360 Jewelry/ Accessories
365 Pets/Pet Supplies
370 Recreational
375 Tickets/ Entertainment
380 Tools
385 Trades
390 Wanted to Buy

400 SERVICES
410 Business
415 Computers
420 Counseling
425 Health/Wellness
430 Home
435 Financial
440 Fitness/Training
445 Legal
450 Licensed Massage
455 Psychic/Astrology
460 Travel
465 Miscellaneous

500 NEIGHBORHOOD
510 Activites
515 Classes/Workshops
520 Discussion Groups
525 Events
530 General
535 Lost & Found
540 Volunteers
545 Legal Notices

600 MOTOR
610 Cars
615 Trucks
620 SUV's
625 Motorcycles
630 Recreational
635 Parts
640 Repairs

700 MUSIC
710 Equipment for Sale
715 Music Instruction
720 Musicians Available
725 Musicians Wanted
730 Recording Studios
735 Rentals/Services
740 Shameless Promotion

PERSONALS
Lovers Lane
Easy Street
Shot in the Dark
Messages

Please check your ad for accuracy the first time it runs. *The Austin Chronicle* is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. *The Austin Chronicle*'s liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be submitted by Tuesday, 1pm.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm
Deadlines: Tuesday, 1pm **Phone:** 512-454-5767
Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com

JOBS

115 BEAUTY SALON/SPA

ALL Hair Stylist, Nail tech, Massage Therapist Full-time or Part-time. Between UT and Capitol. Call Mary 477-7068

HAIRSTYLIST
J Thomas Salon
has one chair available (booth rental) for experienced Stylist with clientele. Fax resume to 494-5475. Serious inquiries only. No drama! Professionals only.

HAIRSTYLISTS / NAIL TECHS Lease $130/wk. Downtown location. Lots of walk-ins. 320-5907.

STYLIST Needed for Hip, Downtown Salon in the heart of market dist. Booth Rental, FT & PT avail. Call Stephen at Tsunami Salon 320-0050.

STYLISTS OR NAIL TECH Is your salon slow or closing? We have been leasing to salon pros for 20 years. Beauty Store Salon & Spa in the Arboretum area has leasing opportunities for independent contractors. If you are a hairdresser or nail tech with a clientele, but room for walk-ins, you should check out our new salon on Hwy 183. High traffice location with great visibility. Plenty of parking, your clients will love it. No long term contract, low weekly rent, 3 weeks rent free. Call Darryl @ 619-4246

125 GENERAL

ASSEMBLY $$$HELP WANTED$$$ Earn Extra income assembling CD cases from Home. CALL OUR LIVE OPERATORS NOW! 1-800-405-7619 ext. 150 http://www.easywork-greatpay.com (AAN CAN)

COPIER OPERATORS High Speed Copier Operators wanted. Must have experience. 3 shifts available. Call 472-5353.

POST OFFICE NOW HIRING! Average pay $20/hr or $57K/ yr incl. Federal Benefits and OT. Placed by adSource, not affiliated w/ USPS who hires. 1-866-616-7019. (AAN CAN)

PRINT SHOP 30 individuals needed in campus area copyshop for various temporary positions including copy clerk, binding, computer help, and cashier. From $7.50/hr. Call 478-0871.

ALL Freddy's Frozen Custard is Now Hiring: Cooks, Cashiers & Bussers. FT & PT/ AM & PM Shifts Available. Also Hiring Managers! Austin Area. Call for more info 210-289-0701. Fax resume to 210-822-2276 or email gary.nail@yahoo.com

BARTENDER !BARTEND! Up to $300 a day. No experience necessary. Training Available. 1-800-965-6520 x207.

HEAD WAITSTAFF/ ASSISTANT MANAGER Dirty Martin's Hamburgers is now hiring F/T head waitstaff. Exp. & Ref. Req. Apply in person M-F 3-5pm 2808 Guadlupe St.

130 HEALTHCARE

DIRECT CARE STAFF
NEEDED! $400 Sign on bonus after 6 months! We need staff to work at least 20 hrs/wk working with clients with cognitive challenges in north Austin. Flexible hours. Call Dana @ 1-800-867-0047. Apply in person at 1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 250W.
Fax resume to 512-338-1555 or email to dmcbride@empowermentoptions.com

135 HOSPITALITY

HOOVER'S COOKING

Hoover's Cooking is now hiring food servers for AM & PM shifts.

Please apply M-F 8am-11am and 2pm-5pm
2002 Manor Road

150 NON-PROFIT

ACTIVISM

512.326.5655

Ditch the Corporate World! Jobs for Social Justice!!

Tired of staring at a computer screen 40 hours a week? Fed up with dry cleaning your work clothes? Finished with being used as a pawn in the system's game? Break free from corporate shackles and get PAID to FIGHT for what's RIGHT!!

- M-F, 2-10 PM *$375/wk*
- Bonuses, Benefits
- Paid Training
- Leadership Adv.
- Travel Opps.

Call today for an appointment or apply online at www.texasenvironment.org

TEXAS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

155 PROFESSIONAL

ACTIVISM

512.326.5655

Ditch the Corporate World! Jobs for Social Justice!!

Tired of staring at a computer screen 40 hours a week? Fed up with dry cleaning your work clothes? Finished with being used as a pawn in the system's game? Break free from corporate shackles and get PAID to FIGHT for what's RIGHT!!

- M-F, 2-10 PM *$375/wk*
- Bonuses, Benefits
- Paid Training
- Leadership Adv.
- Travel Opps.

Call today for an appointment or apply online at www.texasenvironment.org

TEXAS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

COMPUTER
SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER-Customize applications for use in property tax collection and bankruptcy court litigation. Send resume to McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen PC, Attn: Bryant Smith, 700 Jeffrey Way, Suite 100, Round Rock, TX 78665

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING Power System Engineer Senior - Relay Engineering (Austin, TX) Provide technical expertise in electrical utility protective relaying and control systems involving electromechanical and microprocessor based relaying schemes for utility systems ranging from 12.47 kV to 345 kV. Generate relay design drawing packages to be issued for bid, construction and standardization. Generate protective relay and control system settings and DNP and hardwired SCADA point mapping. Utilize engineering software (e.g. Aspen One-Liner) to model, analyze, and perform protective device coordination, short circuit analysis, and other engineering studies related to the transmission, substation, and distribution system. Provide relay engineering, testing, and commissioning support for field construction personnel. Produce relay project estimates, schedules, project plans, bill-of-materials, specifications, trip checking procedures, and other engineering documents for installing, commissioning, analyzing, trouble-shooting, and as-built documentation. Comply with Electric Service Delivery (ESD)'s Quality Management System/ISO Standards and work to continuously improve the quality of work and electrical service to Austin Energy's Customers. Promote teamwork and provide leadership to meet work group goals and success factors including meeting project scope, schedule, accuracy, budget, and customer satisfaction objectives. Research, recommend, and implement utility relay industry regulation and competitive design approaches. Interpret and apply applicable National Electric Code, the National Electric Safety Code, and ANSI/IEEE Standards. Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering and 7 years experience in design, system analysis, and relay set order generation of Utility Transmission, Substation, and Distribution Protective Relaying Systems. P.E. license in the State of Texas preferred. Mail resume to City of Austin - Austin Energy, 2526 Kramer Lane Bldg. E, Austin, TX 78758.

Huston-Tillotson University
presents its
PARALEGAL CERTIFICATE COURSE
Live lecture classes begin ***January 24, 2009***
Also available year-round online:
ADVANCED PARALEGAL • VICTIM ADVOCACY
LEGAL SECRETARY • LEGAL INVESTIGATION • MEDIATION
LEGAL NURSE CONSULTANT TRAINING COURSE™
Call 1.800.522.7737 to register
www.legalstudies.com

Chronicle
CLASSIFIEDS ONLINE
POST FREE 24/7 IN 70+ CATEGORIES
LET AUSTIN KNOW WHAT YOU THINK
with the *Chronicle*'s new ONLINE FORUMS
Post now and enter to win prizes!
austinchronicle.com/tradeup

160 RESEARCH STUDY

DONOR PROGRAM

SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

Fairfax Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. $150 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at http://www.123donate.com.

HERPES

Herpes Outbreak Natural Remedy Study

Seeking Male/Female, 18+ to participate.

Participants receive free herbal supplements.

Email IKnowFria@gmail.com for more information.

SEX ABUSE

HAS SEXUAL ABUSE AFFECTED YOUR LIFE?

Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin are conducting a treatment study for women with a history of sexual abuse who are experiencing sexual difficulties. Treatment is free of charge, and compensation for time and travel is provided. The study involves answering questions and writing about personal experiences, including sexual behavior. If you have a history of sexual abuse and it has affected your sexuality you may qualify.

For more info, please call

(512) 232-4805

All calls are confidential.

RESEARCH You've given blood for money. We won't even mention all the other things you've done for a little extra cash. Make it easy on yourself and check out The Austin Chronicle's Clinical Studies Page.

WOMEN

POSTMENOPAUSAL?

Generations of postmenopausal or surgically sterile women have helped test investigational drugs by participating in clinical research studies. You could help too. You may qualify for research study 8200-332 involving an investigational drug if you are:

- A postmenopausal or surgically sterile woman age 35 to 70
- Available for four inpatient study periods of 4 days/3 nights PLUS 8 outpatient visits

Participants will receive all study-related exams at no cost and payment up to $4650 for time and participation. Think you can help? Then call

(877)851-1064

Please Reference Study 8200-332

313 E. Anderson Ln, Ste 200
Austin, TX

www.TestWithTheBest.com

COVANCE
THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMPANY

165 RETAIL

MYSTERY SHOPPERS

Earn up to $100 per day. Undercover shoppers needed to judge retail and dining establishments. Experience not necessary. CCall 1-800-721-8435

170 SALES MARKETING

MARKETING

ARE YOU GOOD WITH PEOPLE?

MONEY MOTIVATED?
SELF MOTIVATED? IF SO, WE WANT YOU!!!

Silverleaf resorts are hiring FT/PT employees for the Austin area. Call Michelle for an interview

(512)740-6689

SALES

We are looking for GREAT OutBound Sales Agents for B to B & Entry Level CSR

so if you want to work with a

"Fun, Energetic, Tropical Shirt/Shorts kind of Company

this is the place!

We believe in Working Hard in a Fast Paced Environment. The environment demands excellent sales skills, high integrity, self-motivation and multi-tasking skill set. CSR $10/hr candidate must be able to respond positively in a high-call-volume environment. Sales B2B Analog to Digital television, Contract Work, South Austin on Bus Line.

Send your resume to:

hr@satcountry.com

SALES Sales Executives: Potential to earn like a CEO without the stress. Call 800-320-5645, Ext. 6044.

SALES CONSULTANTS

National Sales Consultants and Coaches needed for international company experiencing explosive growth. Are you ready to make the income you really want and have control of your time and finances? Serious, motivated & driven should call. For more information call (800)679-7042 x8801

175 SCHOOL TRAINING

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA
Fast, Affordable & Accredited

FREE Brochure. Call NOW!

1-800-532-6546 ext. 97

www.continentalacademy.com (AAN CAN)

MASTER OF FINE ARTS in TV Production / Master of Science in Media Studies in New York City.

Visit http://www.bctvr.org (AAN CAN)

$400 SIGN-ON BONUS

(after 6 months employment)

We need staff to work at least 20 hrs/wk working with clients with cognitive challenges in clients' homes in north Austin. Flexible hours.

Call 1-800-867-0047 for Dana.

Apply in person at 1106 Clayton Lane, Ste 250W, Austin, TX 78723; fax resume to 512-338-1555; email resume to dmcbride@empowermentoptions.com.

EOE

EMPOWERMENT OPTIONS
Community Living Alternatives
"Our Mission - Your Right"

Turn Your Passion Into Your Profession



From the technical and creative know-how to hands-on training by industry professionals, our renowned multi-studio RECORDING ARTS program teaches you all the skills you need to succeed in the Entertainment Industry.

CLASSES START
Monday January 5, 2009

ENROLL NOW!

For more information and to tour our studios, call

512.447.2002

MediaTech Institute, Austin Campus
200 Academy Drive
Suite A
Austin, TX 78704
cam@mediatechinstitute.com

RECORDING ARTS PROGRAM

MediaTech Institute
Audio • Digital Film • Video • Multimedia Education

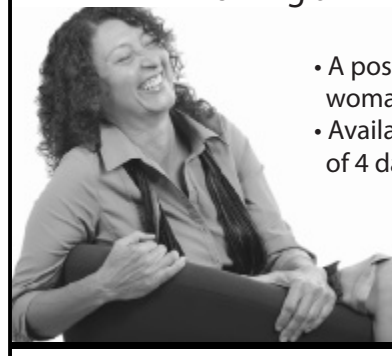
www.mediatechinstitute.com

Financial Aid available to those who qualify • Job placement assistance after graduation • Accredited School, ACCSCT

Postmenopausal?

Generations of postmenopausal or surgically sterile women have helped test investigational drugs by participating in clinical research studies. You could help too.

You may qualify for research study 8200-332 involving an investigational drug if you are:



- A postmenopausal or surgically sterile woman age 35 to 70
- Available for four inpatient study periods of 4 days/3 nights PLUS 8 outpatient visits

Participants will receive all study-related exams at no cost and payment up to $4650 for time and participation.

Think you can help?
Then call 877-851-1064 or visit TestWithTheBest.com today.

COVANCE
THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMPANY

313 E. Anderson Lane, Ste. 200
Austin, TX 78752

HOME OF THE FREDDY'S STEAKBURGER
EXPANDING TO THE AUSTIN AREA

NOW HIRING

COOKS, CASHIERS & BUSSERS

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME
AM/PM SHIFTS AVAILABLE
1465 EAST WHITESTONE BLVD. H 360
CEDAR PARK, TX
CALL FOR MORE INFO 210-289-0701

EOE/F/M

Freddy's Frozen Custard

NOW HIRING: MANAGERS
BENEFITS PACKAGE INCLUDES:
Growth & Advancement Opportunity
Quarterly Bonuses
Health Insurance/ Dental/ Vision
Direct Deposit & Discounted Meals
50 HR/5 DAY WORK WEEK

FAX RESUME TO 210-822-2276
EMAIL GARY.NAIL@YAHOO.COM

We are looking for GREAT
OutBound Sales Agents for B to B
& Entry Level CSR
so if you want to work with a
"Fun, Energetic, Tropical Shirt/ Shorts kind of Company"
this is the place.

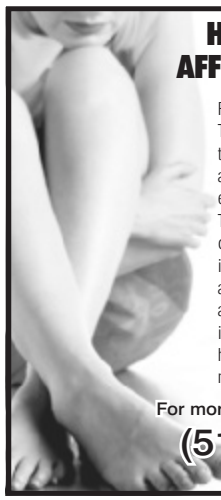
We believe in Working Hard in a Fast Paced Environment. The environment demands excellent sales skills, computer & communication skills, interpersonal skills, high integrity, self-motivation and multi-tasking skill set. CSR $10/hr candidate must be able to respond positively in a high-call- volume environment. Sales B2B Analog to Digital Television, Contract Work, South Austin, on Bus Line.

Send your resume to
hr@satcountry.com.



MARKETING
METRO MARKETERS NEEDED

ARE YOU GOOD WITH PEOPLE? MONEY MOTIVATED? SELF MOTIVATED?
If so we want you!!
Silverleaf Resorts is hiring FT/PT employees for the Austin area.
Call Michelle for an interview.
512-740-6689



HAS SEXUAL ABUSE AFFECTED YOUR LIFE?

Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin are conducting a treatment study for women with a history of sexual abuse who are experiencing sexual difficulties. Treatment is free of charge, and compensation for time and travel is provided. The study involves answering questions and writing about personal experiences, including sexual behavior. If you have a history of sexual abuse you may qualify.

For more information, please call
(512)232-4805
All calls are confidential.

Pay your Rent
Work for the Earth!
512/326-5655



ORGANIZE FOR HUMAN NEED OVER CORPORATE GREED
apply online at www.texasenvironment.org
TEXAS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

CONTINUED 175 SCHOOL TRAINING

PARALEGAL CERTIFICATE COURSE
Huston-Tillotson University offering Paralegal Certificate Course beginning Jan. 24, 2009. Also available online: Advanced Paralegal, Victim Advocacy, Legal Secretary, Legal Investigation, Mediation, Legal Nurse Consultant Training Course. Call
1-800-522-7737 to register.
www.legalstudies.com

PHARMACY TECH
WORKSHOP $800 includes 30 class hrs, materials & Nat'l exam fee. Begins 1/26/09. Call toll free @ 866-346-0660 or www.
expresstrainingservices.com/pharmacy

SCHOOL From the techincal and creative know-how to hands-on training by industry professionals, our renowned multi-studio RECORDING ARTS program teaches you all the skills you need to succeed in the Entertainment Industry.

For more information and to tour our studios,
CALL 512-447-2002. Austin Campus 200 Academy Drive , Ste. A Austin, TX 78704
www.mediatechinstsiute.com

WRITERS WANTED The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at
Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 21 - Aug. 16, 2009) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in alt-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid $3,000 plus housing and travel
allowances. For information and an application visit
http://altjournalism.org. You may also email us at
altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be
postmarked by Feb. 13, 2009. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

180 TECHNICAL

ENGINEER
QUALCOMM, INC.
has the following degreed/experienced position available in Austin TX:
SR HW ENG II
(F-SM3-L)
Multiple openings available. Mail resume with job code to
QUALCOMM Inc., P.O. Box 919013, San Diego, CA, 92191-9013. EOE

EMPLOYMENT Hire employees who are as smart as you are! Advertise your positions in the Austin Chronicle's Help Wanted section. Call 512-454-5765 for more info.

HOUSING

215 APT/CONDO TOWNHOME

CEDAR PARK
www.AustinCool.com
"YOUR SOURCE FOR COOL & UNIQUE AUSTIN RENTALS"
(512) 693-7231

CENTRAL SAME DAY RAY
512-496-3725
CALL, LOOK, LEASE TODAY!

CENTRAL Remodeled 1-1. Tile floor, washer/dryer
included. Free cable, walk to eat/drink/shop. $750. 817-903-1221.

CENTRAL Ron Jon the Apartment Mon! Free Apt. Locating! Call 512-293-7443
ronjontheapartmentmon.com

CENTRAL 78704! $775 2/2 W/D Connections. Water paid. Call 512-293-7443
ronjontheapartmentmon.com

CENTRAL Downtown 2BR/ BA + loft w/ 2 gated prkng $1700/mo. Many extras: granite, wood floors, w/d, fireplace. Incl water/sewage/cable. Wifi enabled. Please contact John @ 512-484-3136

CENTRAL www.apartments-austin-tx.com 693-7290 Loft, walk downtown, rooftop terrace, concrete floors, $990.

CENTRAL
1/1, 577 sf, $200 Off 1st Mo., $559
ApartmentExperts.com
416-8100 Broker

CENTRAL Remodeled Flats, polished concrete flrs, walk-in closet, big kitchens w' new appliances. On Site Laundry. $725 OBO, 512-322-0512.

CENTRAL 78704! $3BD all the fixin's! Call 512-293-7443
ronjontheapartmentmon.com

CENTRAL
•EFF - Starting at $480
•1Br - $475 town lake access, free cable
•1Br - $499 private lake, tanning bed, pools & hot tub!!
•2br - $650 Free cable, 2 pools, skate park
•1br Loft - $625 1st stop on UT Shuttle
•3br - $850 super nice, super clean!
B Specializing in immediate move-ins, cheap rent & difficult
situations. No credit, bad credit, 1st time renters, co-signers, no problem mon!
Call now!
512-293-7443
ronjontheapartmentmon.com
Fast, Friendly, & Best of All FREE!

CENTRAL
Downtown Congress
No Carpet
100% Tile
$895 Gas
First Call Properties
512-448-4800
firstcallaustin.com

CENTRAL
1/1, 527sf, Jan 1st, $535, POOL, GYM, w/d conn
Apt Experts 416-8100

CENTRAL Clarksville area 1BD $775, 2BD $1095 Wood floors, free cable. Same Day Ray, Call, Look & Lease today! 496-3725

CENTRAL List of all downtown rentals! Availability, pricing & specials. Call Rick with Properties Plus www.prop-plus.com 447-7368.

CENTRAL
1/1, ALL BILLS PD, $415+, UT Shuttle, Shared Living
Apt Experts 416-8100

CENTRAL Speedway Studio! Recent modern remodel, concrete floors, updated counters, on site laundry. Walk to shuttle. $650, 512-322-0512.

CENTRAL
www.AustinCool.com
(512)693-7231
360 LOFT
Tallest building in Austin!
Concierge, rooftop pool
$1,495!

CENTRAL Tarrytown - Unique 2 Bdrm in wonderful location. Faux wood floors, Fireplace, Beautiful pool, Paid cable. 2600 Enfield. 451-0414

CENTRAL
1/1, $600+, CABLE, UT SHUTTLE, POOL, GYM, 644sf
Apt Experts 416-8100

CENTRAL
2/1, 850 sf, $200 OFF 1st Mo., S.E., $709 12Mo Lease
ApartmentExperts.com
416-8100 Broker

CENTRAL 78704 Several 2-3 br condos to choose from. The ones with wood floors will be the first to go. Call to set up an appointment to view. Go to www.austinareahomestore.com or call 512-218-4886. Toll Free 877-878-5388

CENTRAL
www.AustinCool.com 693-7231 Brand new hip Dwntwn loft, open design, wood floors. Free plasma TV! no rent til Jan

CENTRAL
2/2, 960sf, $685mo, POOL, GATED, Jan 1st
Apt Experts 416-8100

CENTRAL
2/1.5, 904 sf, $650, POOL, GATED, Near St. Eds.
Apt Experts 416-8100

CENTRAL BEST RENTAL WEBSITE IN AUSTIN
No login required, tons of listings - House, Duplex or Apartment:
http://www.austinreallist.com
512-669-8269

CENTRAL

Austin Apartment Store

See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures & floor plans to hundreds of properties at:
http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com
- Anywhere in Austin area.
- Any price range.
- Best specials.
- Fast friendly service.
- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

Give us a call at 828-4470.

CENTRAL Prestigious Downtown Condo @ 555 Hilton. 2/2, bamboo floors, balconies, state of the art kitchen. 451-0414

CENTRAL
CENTRAL/CAMPUS HYDE PARK
Proudly Serving the Central Austin housing needs of
Collegiate Students and Business Professionals
EFF $595 Dec/Jan Move-In
1/1 $675 Jan Move-In
2/2 $1,100, Jan Move-In, 1,000sqft
EFF $495 (Feb Move-in)
(Indoor cats and small adult dogs welcome!)
SINCE 1990
AUSTIN OWNED,
OWNER MANAGED
WAUGH PROP., INC
(512) 451-0988

CENTRAL
www.AustinCool.com 693-7231 Dwntwn SoCo cool studio, walk to cafes/shops, $800 ABP!

CENTRAL $650 2 BR. Free Cable. 3 minutes from downtown. 231-9888
www.apartmentlocating.com

CENTRAL
2/1, 851 sf, $700+, POOL, $299 MOVE IN, UT SHUTTLE
Apt Experts 416-8100

CENTRAL Clarksville Gem! Large 1-1, wood flrs, on site laundry, covered parking. Minutes to downtown. $1050, 512-699-9200.

CENTRAL Hyde Park - Cozy, first floor with large enclosed deck, Concrete Floors. $650. 451-0414.



THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS:
- $525, 1 bedroom, full-size connections.
- Arboretum, $820, 2 bedroom, no rent until Feb. 1.
- 1 month free, cable & internet free too.
- Free w/d, free cable, zero gets you in, no Dec. rent.

Mark Freeman
Licensed Real Estate Agent **512-422-2709**

CAMPUS/HYDE PARK/CENTRAL
INDOOR CATS AND SMALL ADULT DOGS WELCOME!
EFF $595 (DEC./JAN. MOVE-IN)
EFF $495 (FEB. MOVE-IN)
1/1 $675 (JAN. MOVE-IN)
2/2 $1,100 (JAN. MOVE-IN)
LARGE 3/2 DUPLEX $1900
JAN. MOVE-IN, SHORT TERM LEASE THRU JUNE AVAILABLE.
AUSTIN OWNED AND OWNER MANAGED SINCE 1990.
WAUGH PROPERTIES, INC. 451-0988

CENTRAL Live on 6th St. for $785!! Free Parking, Cable, Gas, Trash. All units remodeled. 1-1 den $850. 692-4525.
www.apartmentlocating.com

CENTRAL
http://AustinCool.com
COOL CENTRAL APARTMENTS, LOFTS & CONDOS FOR RENT & SALE!
(512) 693-7231

CENTRAL Free Local Property Locating Service
http://www.austinreallist.com
512-669-8269

CENTRAL Grand Oak, deluxe 2/2, plank floors/9 ft. ceilings, w/d con., free high speed internet/cable, walk-in closets. Smokeless, petless and quiet. 1000 sq.ft. $1400. Close to Redriver/LBJ/ St.Davids. 2901 Swisher. 477-3388.

CENTRAL 78701 - Fully furnished condo at The Shore!! 1 BR, 1 BTH with parking and storage. 763 square feet. Never lived in. On the hike & bike trail - and quiet. Short term lease OK. $1,350/mo month furnished, or $1,100/mo. unfurnished - also for sale or trade. Joseph Aubin (512) 563-7093

CENTRAL
3/2, 1344sf, $895, Gated, Walk to St. Eds!
Apt Experts 416-8100

CENTRAL Clarksville Gem! 2 bedroom w' wood flrs, on site laundry, covered parking, minutes to downtown. $1400, 512-322-0512.

CENTRAL 693-7231 http://AustinCool.com Downtown elegance, city-views, hardwoods. Rooftop deck, W/D.

CENTRAL West Campus 2/2. Two blocks from campus! Covered parking, Lg. Balcony. 451-0414

CENTRAL Small Clarksville community. Hardwood floors available. All new appliances, designer paint and ceiling fans. Gas, Trash, and Cable paid. 1-1 $785, 2bed $995. Call now. 231-9888. www.apartmentlocating.com

CENTRAL 2 exits to downtonw 1BD $525, 2BD $670, W/D conn, water paid, 3BD $775. Bad credit, Broken Lease, Big Dogs - no breed restrictions/weigh limit! Same Day Ray, Call, Look & Lease today! 496-3725

CENTRAL Large 2/2, 800 sq.ft. Next to UT/Redriver/ St.Davids/LBJ. Free internet/ cable. Smokeless, petless and quiet. $1000 per mo. 2900 Swisher. 477-3388.

CENTRAL
Barton Springs
Zilker Park
$719-$1150
512-448-4800
firstcallaustin.com

DOWNTOWN

AFFORDABLE LIVING AT THE SHORES!

This is a perfect opportunity to test drive life at the shores! Looking for a 6 month lease, but will consider longer. Pool, Fitness, Parking, HOA dues are paid, concierge at the front desk, it's a grand opportunity at a discounted rate!

CALL 512.633.1408 for a tour or to see
http://austin.craigslist.org/apa/959581262.html



EAST www.AustinCool.com 693-7231 Cool area w/retail, cityviews, stained concrete, stainless, modern loft.

METRO SAME DAY RAY
512-496-3725
CALL, LOOK, LEASE TODAY!

METRO Beautiful Newly Constructed Condo! All appliances, energy efficient, wood floors, stainless steel appliances! Contact Austin Apartment Store for more info 512-828-4470. For details and more properties go to www.austinapartmentstore.com!

Austin Apartment Store

METRO
APARTMENT SPECIALISTS
Experts in Helping You Move From There to Here!

SOUTH- 1Br. $750 No Pet Deposit

SOUTH- 2 Br. $810 1 Month Free, Free Internet & Cable

Arboretum- 2 Br. $820 1 Month Free, W/D included

Far West $763 2 Br. 16x12 Master, Wood Floors

1 Br. $709 $129 Move in Special, Free 32" Flat screen

Mark Freeman 422-2709
Licensed Real Estate Agent

NORTH Fabulous 4-plex! $199 total. Large dogs ok. W/D & free WI-FI! Brand new 2-2 $879. 231-9888. www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTH Hardwood floors $515!!!!! Great downtown access. Best kept secret in Austin. This will be a short termed special on a great apartment so call soon! 1-1 $515, 2-2 $745. 231-9888. www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTH A Landmark in Residential Living, Nestled just off of US Hwy. 183. Offering easy access to retail shops, fine restaurants, and is in close proximity to major employers.This exclusive community offers an unprecedented level of style and sophistication in an impressive selection of one, two, and three bedroom homes. 1-1's starting at $704; $87.50 Sure Deposit. SPECIAL: $500 off the first months rent! Call Chris Bee/Agent of Avignon Realty: 512-293-7737

NORTH SAME DAY RAY
512-496-3725
CALL, LOOK, LEASE TODAY!

NORTH Broken lease, Bad credit, OK! $550 1BD
Call 512-293-7443
ronjontheapartmentmon.com

NORTH CENTRAL Crestview Station 1-1s from $550; 2-1s from $650. Located near future commuter rail station and multiple bus routes. brian@cbimanagement.com. 658-9493.

NORTH CENTRAL 2-1! Quiet area, close to shops. Recent remodel, concrete floors. $900 per month, corner unit! 512-322-0512

NORTHWEST $480 Jr 1 BR. 2/2.5 $850. 3/2 $925, BIG AS A House! 231-9888. www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTHWEST

Austin Apartment Store

LUXURIOUS NORTHWEST COMMUNITY. 3 fitness centers, 3 pet parks, many extras. http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com or call 828-4470 for current availability.

NORTHWEST $599 North Austin Hidden Gem. Gated community. Playground & W/D conn. 2 beds $689. 231-9888. www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTHWEST Two Leash Dog Parks! Indoor Basketball. Hill Country Views. Garages, patios, townhomes, and much more. $734+ 692-4525. www.apartmentlocating.com

NORTHWEST Huge Walk-In Closets! One and two bedroom floorplans nestled in a beautiful community with breathtaking views, wooded privacy, style and sophistication. Offering a 24-hour fitness center, sparkling three-tier pool, greenbelt views, and washer/dryer connections.Only minutes from Mopac, 183, 2222, and Capital of Texas Highway, fabulous shopping, great restaurants and more! 1-1's starting at $649. Pets welcome. Call Chris Bee/Agent of Avignon Realty: 512-293-7737

NORTHWEST $785 2 BR in prestigous Murchison/Doss school district. Walking distance to Doss & Murchison. Pet friendly. 1/1 $579. 692-4525 agent.

SOUTH $475 1 Bed, Townlake Access. Hidden location. Free Cable. Call 512-293-7443 ronjontheapartmentmon.com

SOUTH http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 Total urban living experience. Stained concrete floors, art deco, W/D, 2/2 $789. 1/1, $639.

SOUTH SOCO: Over 1 acre of Prime Commercial Property on S.Congress north of Hwy 71, positive cashflow or tear down for new. $2m assumable loan w/ $3.2m appraisal. This prime property has great upside potential. www.wesleyaddition.com 310-890-5999

SOUTH $529 Move In Today! Private pond, tanning beds. Call 512-293-7443 ronjontheapartmentmon.com

SOUTH Inspired Living in Austin. Conveniently located minutes from downtown and the airport, Stunning craftsman style architectural design, Clubroom with large screen TV, fireplace and lounge. Ceramic tile entries, Electric stove and oven, Pantries and ample storage, Enhanced ceiling heights, Garden oval tubs and separate showers with glass enclosures* Ceiling fans in bedrooms, and Private patios and decks. 1/1's starting at $815. $100 deposit. Call Chris Bee/Agent of Avignon Realty: 512-293-7737

SOUTH $599 2/2, Townake Access. Free Cable. Bus Routes. Call 512-293-7443 ronjontheapartmentmon.com

SOUTH South Austin, William Cannon to Manchaca, 1 Bedrooms $499 & up. 2 Bedrooms $700 & up.. Call Rick @ 447-RENT with Properties Plus.

SOUTH

AFFORDABLE SOUTH AUSTIN LUXURY CONDOS NOW FOR LEASE

Five 1BR & 2BR Plans

As low as $750/month

bamboo floors, stainless appliances, granite counters, pool w/deck & BBQ area, W/D connections, gorgeous landscaping & many others

Less than 3 mi. from St. Ed's and SoCo.
3204 Manchaca Rd, 78704
theIvyAustin.com/lease
512-731-0904

SOUTH www.AustinCool.com 693-7231 Greenbelt trail at door, W/D incl, walk to shops/cafes-cool 78704 $699

SOUTH http://AustinCool.com 693-7231 78704 near cafes & shops, mins to dwntwn. Well managed 2BDRM W/D $860

SOUTH $185 Total Move-In for Dec! $549 1BD. Call 512-293-7443 ronjontheapartmentmon.com

SOUTH www.AustinCool.com 693-7231 Brand new 2/1, W/D, convenient to TX State, ceramic tile, bookcases $908 1/1 $729.

SOUTH SAME DAY RAY
512-496-3725
CALL, LOOK, LEASE TODAY!

SOUTH

NOW LEASING MODERN 1 BR CONDOS IN 78704

$850/MO

Less than 1/2 mi. from St. Ed's & Soco

Next to Gillis Park
INCREDIBLE AMENITIES
-Bamboo floors
-Stainless appliances
-Granite counters
-Zen Garden
-Pool-Hot Tubs-On Site
-Laundry & so much more!

AustinElementStudios.com/lease

2526 Durwood St, 78704
512.507.8358

SOUTH
www.AustinCool.com
(512)693-7231
WOODED PARK SETTING
Large decks, trees, big dogs
• $670
• 2/1... $799, W/D

SOUTH
2/2, TH, 1000sf, $749+, W/D Conn, Pool, Gated.
ApartmentExperts.com
416-8100 Broker

FREE APT. LOCATORS

SAME DAY RAY
CALL, LOOK & LEASE TODAY

3 WEEKS FREE Huge units, 1BD $500 674 sq. ft., 2B Townhouse $725, W/D
CLARKSVILLE AREA 1BD $775, 2BD $1095, free cable
$299 1ST MONTH Efficiency $495, 2BD $585, 5 min to dtwn
CHEAP RENT EFF $415, 1BR furnished, $505, 2BR t-home, $625
BARTON CREEK GREENBELT $619, 1 mo. FREE!
2 EXITS TO DOWNTOWN 1BD $525, 2BD $670, W/D conn., water paid, 3BD $775. Bad Credit, Broken Lease, Big Dogs.

RonJon the Apt Mon
FREE APT LOCATING
Keeping Austin weirder one day at a time



EFF: $445-$509 - Nice and cozy
1 BR: $499 - Private lake, tanning bed, pools & hot tub
1 BR: $545 - $100 OFF, gate access, cable, HUGE!!!
2 BR: $650 - free cable, 2 pools, skate park
2 BR LOFT: $799 - W/D conns., incredible, TREES GALORE
3 BR: $895 All the fixin's!

We specialize in immediate move-ins, cheap rent, and difficult situations. We lease condos, homes, and duplexes, too!
WE ARE FAST, FRIENDLY, AND BEST OF ALL FREE
Blue Water Realty: Ray Day 496-3725 • TAP Realty: Ron Jon 293-7443
www.ronjontheapartmentmon.com



COOL PROPERTY LISTINGS
APARTMENTS • LOFTS • CONDOS

- Congress All Bills Paid Funky Austin Flair $800
- Travis Heights hideaways Free Cable 1,2,3 Bedrooms
- Zilker Park/Greenbelt $719 gas cooking
- Walk to Townlake $695+ 1,2,3 Bedrooms
- New York style true Loft brand new 2 months Free
- Vista Hill studio $550
- Downtown Lofts! Fantastic Specials

Don't Monkey Around! **448.4800** **firstcallaustin.com** ***Fun Easy Leasing!***

GREENLIGHT LOCATING
Fine Apartment Locating

78704
South 1st - just blocks from it all!
2 bedroom $750

LIVE AT THE LEGACY $840
Affordable 1/1 dependant on your income, call or email for details

JUDGE'S HILL STUDIO $550
Walk to ACC Rio Grande Campus

TOWNHOME LOFT, 78704
2 bedroom - steps from the action $999

DOWTOWN LOFTS & CONDOS
360 Condominiums, AMLI, The Monarch, Brown Bldg., Legacy, The Shores

URBAN DESIGN
Concrete floors & black appliances, built '02
1/1s $799, 2/2s $1100

512.358.4111
www.greenlightlocating.com

GREENLIGHT
Fine Apartment Locating

Houses Apartments Condos Lofts Duplexes Townhomes

Austin Apartment Store

- **Free service and we pay you a portion of our commission**
- **Up to 3 months free**
- **Access to best specials**
- **Best apt database in town**
- **Visit: www.austinapartmentstore.com to see pictures floor plans and narrated video tours**
- **Call us at 828-4470 for fast friendly and free service**





SPECIALS 828-4470

NORTHWEST
$99 Move-in. 2/2, $799, Views. 3bd $950.

SOUTH
2bd $663. Views.

NORTH
1156 sq. ft. $899+.

NORTH CENTRAL
722 sq. ft. 1/1 $699.
1/1, $599. W/D inc.
2bd $690 Views.

PFLUGERVILLE
920 sq. ft.1/1 $699.



DELWOOD DELIGHT!

1309 Bentwood Rd. 3/1/1. Walk to new Mueller development via greenbelt access. Updated to today's standards. Granite counters, matching GE stainless appliance package, slate flooring in kitchen, recessed lighting in kitchen and updated cabinets. New hardwood flooring (9/08) in living area. Fireplace, Neutral paint colors throughout. Upper end ceiling fans and fixtures. New (9/08) landscaping package in front yard. Nice recent large deck in private backyard with storage bldg. **Call BrokerBrad.com @ 512-750-4099. Asking $279,750.**



Cute, well kept Soco area condo. Close to everything! Unique fireplace treatment in living area. Dual covered balconies with view of pool and partial downtown skyline. Hard tile entry and kitchen with laminate flooring in living area and second bedroom. Included is 1 reserved carport space and 1 additional parking space. Seller is relocating and motivated!



Tarrytown- 2605 Enfield Rd #219 - $224,900- 2 Bed/2.5 Bath – Newly Remodeled Condo! Granite countertops in kitchen and bathrooms! Stainless steel appliances! REFRIGERATOR INCLUDED! Minutes from Town Lake, Hula Hut, and Downtown!

MLS#6755811- For more information contact Fred Meyer at 512.517.2300 or 512.323.9006.
For thousands of Austin Area listings please visit www.AustinCityLiving.com

ACL AustinCityLiving
REAL ESTATE • PROJECT MARKETING

NINE SIXTY NINE
The Biggest Names in Modern Architecture alongside
The Smallest Energy Costs... & Affordable Pricing



www.NineSixtyNine.com / 512.927.2626

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOUSE!



REALTY WORLD
BJ GOBER & ASSOCIATES
512/303-3167

LOT 33 MOCCASIN CANYON, CEDAR CREEK
BRING YOUR HORSES TO THIS BEAUTIFUL 2.4 ACRE LOT JUST 12 MILES FROM THE AIRPORT NEAR THE HYATT LOST PINES RESORT $73,500



Caswell Townhomes
Eight Luxury Contemporary Townhomes

Beautiful architecture and stunningly appointed interior, chef's dream kitchen w/ custom granite counters and top-of-the-line stainless steel appliances. Stained concrete flooring and soaring ceilings offer "loft" living experience without downtown "loft" pricing. This custom "Green" project was built w/ Energy Star green materials. Heavily treed lot in highly sought after Hyde Park. Washer, dryer and Fisher & Paykel stainless steel refrigerator included w/ accepted contract this month! Tosca Gruber, Realtor®, 512/784-3000

www.caswelltownhomes.com.

We never stop moving
COLDWELL BANKER
UNITED, REALTORS
www.cbunited.com

spaces
EVERYWHERE YOU WANT TO LIVE



On newsstands Jan. 23.

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com

For advertising opportunities: 512/454.5767 or e-mail classifieds@austinchronicle.com

CONTINUED 215

APT/CONDO TOWNHOME

SOUTH CENTRAL Waterfront living with skyline downtown views. Easy access to wonderful Congress. Large open floor plans with tons of windows. Lush central courtyard. Lakefront private park. 1,2,3 bedrooms $695+. 512-448-4800 firstcallaustin.com

SOUTH CENTRAL
Funky Austin Flair
ALL BILLS PAID
$800 CONGRESS
512-448-4800
firstcallaustin.com

SOUTH CENTRAL
Free Washer Dryer
Barton Creek Canyon
$699-$1100
$500 off
1,2 bedrooms
512-448-4800
firstcallaustin.com

SOUTH CENTRAL Barton Springs remodel with Downtown at your doorstep. This Austin landmark is close to it all. Nestled along Bouldin Creek

Modern upgrades just completed. 1,2 flats and lofts

512-448-4800

firstcallaustin.com

SOUTHEAST Minutes to Downtonwn, 1/1 $535, 2/2 $685. Water paid, gated, free rent! Call Rick 447-RENT, Properties Plus.

SOUTHEAST

Austin Area Home Store

Downtown NEW CONSTRUCTION!! 7 minutes to Texas Capitol. Call for appt to view

Austin Area Home Store.

512-218-4886 or toll free 877-878-5388

SOUTHWEST Austin's Living Style - Today! Welcome to a place where you can escape at the end of the day. Also just minutes from the excitement of Downtown Austin. Easy access to thoroughfares and the Capital Metro route. Soon to come clubhouse will offer a fully-equipped 24 hour fitness center! Select homes feature vaulted ceilings, fireplaces and greenbelt. Take a moment at the fountains, or gather around the barbeque.

1/1 studios starting at $850. Call Chris Bee/Agent of Avignon Realty: 512-293-7737

SOUTHWEST

Austin Apartment Store

See narrated video tours and thousands of pictures & floor plans to hundreds of properties at:

http://www.Austinapartmentstore.com

- Anywhere in Austin area.
- Any price range.
- Best specials.
- Fast friendly service.
- We can email pictures & floor plans to the hottest specials in town.

Give us a call at 828-4470.

SOUTHWEST
www.apartments-austin-tx.com 693-7290 Min.to downtown, custom kitchens, granite/wood, 2/1 $899.

1 month free!

SOUTHWEST
www.AustinCool.com
(512)693-7231
UPSCALE 2BDRM, W/D $903
Sunset Valley area
3BDR $1,011

Think of this ad as an ***OPEN HOUSE*** for ***294,000*** readers.
Call 512-454-5767 for more information.



FREE HOME SEARCH
Call Chris Bee • 512-293-7737
Serving the Austin Metro since 2000
Sales: - New Homes - Resale Homes
Leasing: - Apartments - Duplexes - Condos - Houses
WWW.CHRISBEE.US
AVIGNON REALTY
WWW.APARTMENTSFIRST.COM
WWW.AVIGNONREALTY.COM

220 DUPLEX/HOUSES

CENTRAL Clarksville/ Downtown 2-1 house completely remodeled, hill country views, hrdwoods, fncd yard, amazing landscaping. $1700, 512-699-9200

CENTRAL Hyde Park - Spacious 2/2 & 2/1, all appliances, CA/CH, large patio area, small fenced area, covered parking, W/D conn., great closet space, quiet neighbors. Medium pets negotiable. $1200 & $1025. 701-A & 705-B E. 45th (between Red River & Duval). Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Off Enfield - Unique 2/1 4-plex built around private courtyards, clay tile throughout, fireplace, CA/CH, gas/water paid, quiet neighbors, pet friendly! NO W/D connections. $1050. 1603 Woodlawn. Matthews Properties

454-0099, 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Northcross area - 3/2 House w/ Garage, CACH, Fireplace, W/D conn, Fenced yard. $1,200. 451-0414.

CENTRAL Tarrytown - gigantic 1/1's in 4-plex, hardwoods, large common yard area for gardens or just relaxing under the trees, windows everywhere, large kitchen, NO W/D connections, window a/c's. Cats welcome - NO dogs! $875. 2304 Enfield. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Beautiful 3/2 house blocks from Capitol. CACH, fans, all new apps, fenced yard. Pets OK with deposit. $1700/mo. 1100 Angelina St. Call 507-8870.

CENTRAL Here it is! Adorable, spacious 1/1 duplex, HARDWOODS, shared fenced yard (NO dogs-NO exceptions!), lots of windows, covered parking. No indoor smoking or W/D conn. VERY quiet neighbors! $875. 1717 Palma Plaza. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rollo 731-6799, matthewsproperties@yahoo.com

CENTRAL
LARGE 3/2 DUPLEX REDUCED TO $1,500
1909 SAN GABRIEL
W/D, Dishwasher, Disposal, Water paid, January move-in! Lease thru May, June or July. Adult indoor cats & small adult dogs ok. Walk, bike, shuttle to campus, restaurants, shopping!
OWNER MANAGED
WAUGH PROP, INC
(512) 451-0988

CENTRAL Free Local Property Locating Service
http://www.austinreallist.com
512-669-8269

EAST
3/2 in U. Hills. Quiet, recently remodeled, lg yard, h.wood & carpet. 845-6377

EAST CENTRAL Nice remodeled 3/2. Saltillo tile, fenced yard, next to woods. Convenient, near Mueller. 4703 Creekwood. $1200/mo. O/A. 933-1311.

NORTHEAST Near Webberville 18733 FM 969 #1. A great place to live. 14 miles to UT. Quiet, clean, ch/ca, carport, w/d connections, 2120 sqft. spacious 4brd, 1.5 bath $1250 per mo. 472-2097.

NORTHEAST Great area! 3br 2ba 2 story house. 2 car gar. Fresh paint. Avail. Jan 1

5216 Coppermead Ln. Sec 8 ok $1000/mo 512-293-6213 or 209-324-8292

SOUTH List of available duplexes & homes. Quick & courteous Realtor. Call Rick @ 447-7368 w/Properties Plus

SOUTH CENTRAL Travis Heights, 1013 Bonham Terrace, lower 1/2 of Duplex. Hardwood Floors, CA/CH, 2-1 with w/d conn. $1100, Available mid January. Call Cindy, Lanier Realty at 825-4663.

SOUTH CENTRAL Ray Molina 512-563-6349

SOUTHEAST Freshly painted 3 bd 2 ba house. 2 car gar. New appliances. Avail. Now!

5914 Hammermill Run. $900/mo. Sec 8 ok. 512-293-6213 or 209-324-8292

TARRYTOWN Stately 2 story brick house. Top unit rents for $1,485; bottom unit is $1,465. Hdwd floors, W/D, central A/C. Back porch. Call Colette at 512-750-9236.

230 COMMERCIAL

CENTRAL 2 live/work spaces, 1500 ft. ea. Sale or rent, Fenced parking, Overhead door. Month to month possible. 448-3908.

SOUTH SOCO Retail Storefront/Warehouse/Dock High, 3000-7000 sq ft $1 psf. Across from new SOCO Lofts,78704. This is a great area to start a business. 310-890-5999

SOUTH CENTRAL Unique Old School Office Space $1/ft. and up. 200-800 sqft. No Live-In, internet, great location north of hwy 71. 1 (888)556-9760, austinartsfactory.com

235 ROOMMATES

CENTRAL $150 week, cable, telephone, single adult party house, 292-8833.

CENTRAL Single female, pleasant, quiet, possibly a student, that enjoys a healthy lifestyle, wanted to join our family and share our home. We are a couple with a 7 year old daughter and a dog. You will have a furnished private bedroom and private bathroom. Shared: kitchen, laundry room, yard, garden area, and patio. Includes: ALL utilities, yard care, cable TV, and T-1 broadband internet connection through a home network. No phone included (previous housemates have always had a cell phone). Location: We live in a cozy North-Central neighborhood just minutes North of UT via bus line no. 1 or bicycle. There is plenty of safe street parking in front of our home. $499.00 per month with a one time $50.00 non-refundable wear/tear fee with a one year lease. Give us a call! Cindy(Faeghan, Ashira). 371-1104/371-1105 baihlah@grandecom.net

CENTRAL Need a ROOMMATE Fast? Austin's #1 ROOMMATE SERVICE has 1000's of listings. WWW.ROOMMATEEXPRESS.COM. 800-487-8050

METRO ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

SOUTHEAST room for rent, $400.00 per month, deposit $150.00. easley.paul@yahoo.com

SOUTHEAST Room For Rent; inside 4bed room home, we are quiet an respectful, every one get along. Must have car, there are no bus lines. easley.paul@yahoo.com

240 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CEDAR PARK

www.AustinCool.com/sales

SEARCH 11,000 AUSTIN SALES LISTINGS! FREE BUYER REP. (512) 693-7231

CENTRAL 8th floor view to Capitol Bldg, downtown, & Westlake Hills. 1/1 at Greenwood Towers 18th & Lavaca. Needs some cosmetics, but the price is right! Best deal to live downtown. Only $122,700. Call Condo Joe for access 203-4100 or CondoJoe@re-al.com for flyer.

CENTRAL Perfect for Capitol workers! Located on 12th and Guadalupe. Perfect 2/2 on 5th floor. Lowest priced 2/2 in downtown. $249,700. Secure parking, secure access, view to south & west to hills. Call Condo Joe for access 203-4100 or CondoJoe@re-al.com for flyer.

CENTRAL

Tarrytown Living Buyers
Can Afford Near UT, Lake Austin and Downtown

-2000 sq. ft.
-3 beds, 2.5 baths
-Private, fenced backyard
-Wood floors

No HOA dues

2700 Cherry Ln. 78703
ampcondosearch.com/austin/properties/2700cherrylane

512.797.6446

CENTRAL Delwood Delight! 1309 Bentwood Rd. 3/1/1. Walk to new Mueller development. Updated to today's standards. Hardwood flooring in living area. Fireplace, neutral paint colors throughout. New landscaping package. Call BrokerBrad.com @ 512-750-4099. Asking $279,750.

CENTRAL

DOWNTOWN LOFT EXPERTS

Starting at $230K!
Tile, stainless appliances & more!

(512)693-7231

All downtown listings at: www.AustinCool.com/sales

CENTRAL EAST

Lease purchase. 4/3/2 Recently renovated. Large cul-de-sac lot. 10k down. Agent(512) 947-1426

EAST

THE BIGGEST NAMES IN MODERN ARCHITECTURE NEXT TO THE SMALLEST ENERGY COSTS & AFFORDABLE PRICING

NINE SIXTY NINE

• Minutes From Downtown
• Winner: Coolest & Best Cubist Neighborhood

Model Open Daily Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 1pm-7pm
5237 Sendero Hills Pkwy, Austin TX 78724
www.ninesixtynine.com

(512) 927-2626

For Info Text AGAVE to 44133

EAST CENTRAL

4 Historic Homes with Modern Amenities
1/2 mile to Downtown
Aross from Swede Hill Park

-New construction-(3/2.5)
-Charming Historical Accents
-4-Star Energy Certified
-Off-street Parking

Swede Hill Row 78702
www.swedehillrow.com

512.680.1081

HOMES

AustinHomeSource.com
Search the Largest Database of Homes For Sale & For Lease in Central Texas!

View Photos & Download Rental Application on Website!

***** FOR SALE *****

10612 Topperwein
Investors Delight! Duplex
3/2 each unit, near IBM/ACC Northridge, Fully Leased. $159,900

2609 Baxter Drive
3/1.5, Cute house w/ lots of potential! Close to Central Market, Westgate. REDUCED TO $130,500

141 Turkey Ridge Cove
3.38 acre lot, use any builder, clean lot with large oak trees. $50,000

404 Hammack
2/1, Brick house with fruit trees & native plants, near Lamar & 2222. $185,000

***** FOR LEASE *****

8011 Logwood
3/2/2 house, quiet street in Allandale, Recent Remodel, Fresh Paint, Tile, etc.

13133 Briarcreek
4/2.5/2 house, washer/dryer/fridge included.

INVESTORS ASK ABOUT OUR FLAT FEE MANAGEMENT AS LOW AS $49/ MONTH PER UNIT.

HomeSource Real Estate, John C. Sheppard, broker #0448360 (512) 472 - HOME

METRO Area Homes. FREE search data base at www.quigleyteam.com. Real Estate by the Golden Rule!

NORTHWEST Great area, great 2/2 condo priced right! All freshly redone for a new homeowner. Large living, nice windows. HOA pays bills including cable w/HBO. Super price at only $109,700 for a 2-2! CondoJoe@re-al.com for flyer or 203-4100 to see it.

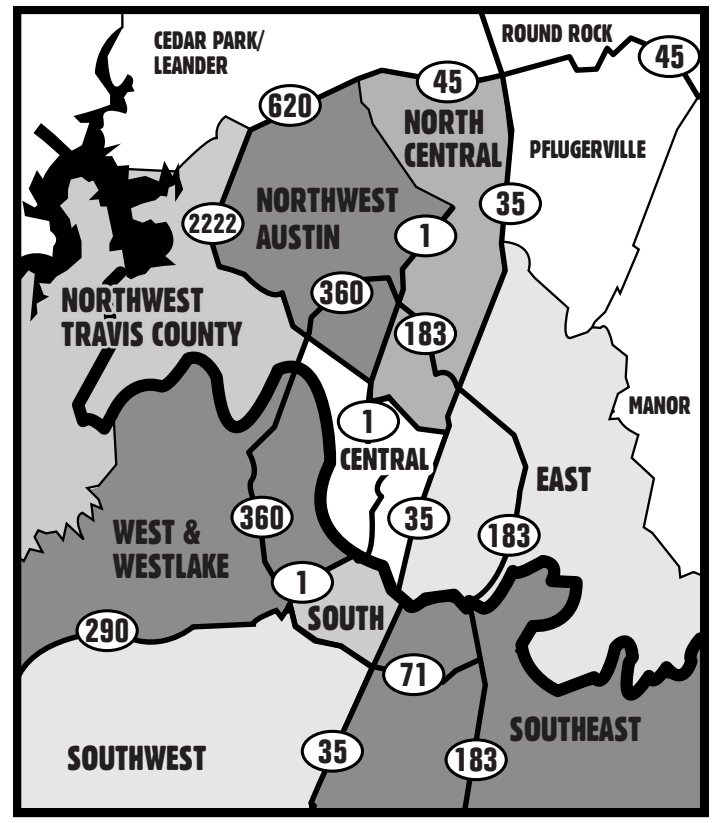
SOUTH Cute, well kept SoCo area condo. Close to everything! Covered balconies with view of pool and partial downtown skyline. Hard tile in entry and kitchen with laminate flooring in living area and second bedroom. Call BrokerBrad.com @ 750-4099.

REAL ESTATE

Bought a couch, been given a dog... you're now ready to move from your little apartment into your own home.

Need help? Find everything from Homes to mortgage brokers to first time home buying seminars in The Austin Chronicle's Real Estate section.

We'll even help you lease your old place!



South Austin Condos For Lease

Ask us how you can get ONE MONTH of FREE RENT!

the ivy @ 78704
- Bamboo floors, granite counters, stainless appliances
- Less than 3 mi. from St. Ed's
- Minutes from downtown
- 5 spacious 1&2 BR floor plans
- W/D connections
- Private pool w/ deck & BBQ area

3204 Manchaca Rd, 78704
TheIvyAustin.com/lease
(512) 731-0904

element studios
- Bamboo floors, granite counters, stainless appliances
- Less than 1/2 mi. from St. Ed's
- Less than 2 mi. from downtown
- Pool, 2 hot tubs, Zen garden
- Next to beautiful Gillis Park
- 1BR floor plans

2526 Durwood St, 78704
AustinElementStudios.com/lease
(512) 507-8358

Live in luxury in 78704 starting at just $750/month!



2 Blks From Capitol



True Urban Living
Downtown View 5th flr, Split 2/2. 964 sqft, 2 parking
$247,500
Also 1/1 flat w/8th flr Capitol view
$122,700

CALL CONDO JOE Joe Bryson, Realtor

203-4100
1(800) 849-8680
for more info email
CondoJoe@re-al.com

REAL REAL ESTATE ALLIANCE

Home Source Real Estate

10612 Topperwein- Investor's Delight! Duplex 3/2 each unit, near IBM/ACC Northridge, Fully Leased, $159,900

2609 Baxter Drive - 3/1.5, cute house with lots of potential! Close to Central Market, Westgate. REDUCED TO $130,500

141 Turkey Ridge Cove - 3.38 acre lot, use any builder, clean lot with large oak trees. $50,000

404 Hammack - 2/1, brick house with fruit trees and native plants, near Lamar & 2222. $185,000

***FOR LEASE* - 8011 Logwood** - 3/2/2 house, quiet street in Allandale,Recent Remodel, Fresh Paint, Tile, etc.

***FOR LEASE* - 13133 Briarcreek** - 4/2.5/2 house, washer/dryer/fridge included.

View Photos & Download Rental Applications on our Website

John C. Sheppard, Broker license #0448360

AustinHomeSource.com · REALTOR · EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

472-HOME

BUY/SELL/TRADE

315 APPLIANCES

APPLIANCES Washers & Dryers starting @ $130.ea or Sets $230. New Style $175. Ea. or Sets $350. Delivered and Installed with Warranty. 512-581-0355

325 CLOTHING

APPAREL
GOTH • PUNK • T-SHIRTS
Clothing, stickers, patches, pins, jewelry, corsets.
• 1905 S. 1st. •
• www.secretoktober.com • 462-9217

330 COMPUTERS

NEW COMPUTER GET A NEW COMPUTER Brand Name laptops & desktops Bad or NO Credit - No Problem Smallest weekly payments available. It's yours NOW - Call 800-803-8819 (AAN CAN)

FOR SALE Your boyfriends huge neon "Miller Genuine Draft" sign not complimenting your new Pottery Barn spring floral sleeper sofa? Sell it with The Austin Chronicle's For Sale section. Call 512-454-5765. Call it. Today!

355 GENERAL

UNIQUE BUMPERSTICKER Cedar is the Reason for the Sneezin. High-quality 11"x3" bumpersticker. Visit www.rockedu.com to order.

365 PETS PET SUPPLIES

ADOPTION SAVE ONE DOG - SAVE THE WORLD! Wanted: Super Homes for our Super Dogs! For Adoptions call Utopia Animal Rescue Ranch 830-589-7544 or check out our dogs at : www.utopiarescue.com

AKC DACHSHUNDS call 512-468-7777

REPTILES/AMPHIBIANS 9th Austin Reptile and Amphibian Expo January 10 (10am-5pm), January 11 (11am-4pm) 2009 Wingate Inn and Conference Center, IH-35/Hwy 79. Come on out for quality captive bred reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates as well as books, cages, tools, feed, face painting, and handmade arts and crafts. Over 50 tables! There will be several educational displays, including a native Texas reptiles display, and a venomous reptile display! Raffles throughout the weekend benefiting the Austin Herpetological Society. Cages, books, toys, t-shirts, posters, equipment and supplies, by ZooMed, and more. For more info go to http://www.austinreptileexpo.com/ or call Tim Cole at (512) 83-SNAKE.



TRACY

is a very friendly & outgoing Border Collie mix. She loves people, dogs, and giving affection. She sits nicely for treats and loves to go for walks. If you are looking for an active dog that isn't afraid of new adventures, look no further!!

260-SPCA CALL FOR HOURS
909 S. BAGDAD RD., LEANDER, TX
CENTRALTEXASSPCA.COM
CHRONICLE

Pet of the Week
JOSEPHINE



Hi there! I'm a 4 year old Golden Retriever/Irish Setter Mix. I'd make a fabulous family dog, even with small children because I am very calm. I am easy going, get along well with other dogs, am people focused. I am housetrained, you can leave me in the house while you are away at work and I won't chew anything up.

CHRONICLE Austin Humane Society

124 W. Anderson Ln. 512/646-7387 ext.105

370 RECREATIONAL

ELLIPTICAL TRAINER

Precor Elliptical Trainer for sale. Commercial grade in excellent condition. 20 resistance settings, cross ramp indicator shows which muscles are being used. 8 Pre-programmed courses. Heart rate chest strap included. $1600 obo

Email hpychick@gmail.com or call 626-6769

375 TICKETS ENTERTAINMENT

ALL

CONCERTS · SPORTS · THEATER
BEST TICKETS
ALL EVENTS
LOCAL · NATIONAL · WORLDWIDE
474-4468

*****....BRAD PAISLEY....****
****...LONGHORN BASKETBALL....**
****..TESLA..****
****.....THE KILLERS.....****
****...THE PRETENDERS.....****
*****...ROBIN WILLIAMS...*****
*****....JOAN BAEZ.....*****
****..LUCINDA WILLIAMS..****
...JOHN LEGEND...
...CITIZEN COPE...
...CELTIC WOMAN...
****....BRETT DENNEN...****
..REVEREND HORTON HEAT..
******...BLACK JOE LEWIS...******
*****...TAPES N TAPES...*****
******...RON WHITE...******
...AMERICA...
******....RADIO CITY ROCKETTES....******
*****..TRANS SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA..*****
*****...CHRIS BOTTI...*****
*****...SCOTT WEILAND...*****
WWW.BESTTIX.COM
474-4468

TICKETS

We "B" Tickets

* Best Seats * Best Prices *

* Trans-Siberian Orchestra * Robin Williams * Killers *

* Chris Botti * Brad Paisley * Sesame St. * John Legend * Pickup/Mail Order 448-2303

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell?

Looking for a roommate?

Want to unload that old refrigerator?

Got a great idea for a band, but missing some musicians?

All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE.

Make it stand out with pictures!

Highlight it by making it a featured ad!

You can even run it in print!

Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately.

After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

SERVICES

410 BUSINESS

ADVERTISING ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS in 111

alternative newspapers like this one. Over 6 million

circulation every week for $1200. Call the Austin

Chronicle at 512-454-5767
No adult ads. (AAN CAN)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY 100% RECESSION PROOF! Do you earn $800 in a day?

Your own local candy route.

Includes 25 Machines and Candy All for $9,995. 1-800-920-8224 (AAN CAN)

SCISSORELLA KNOWS You want a new look for the holidays! Let Scissorella give you the look you've always wanted. A Paul Mitchell Cut and Color specialist, Scissorella will work her magic on your hair and give you a free cut with a color service! Call Scissorella on 512.818.9390

415 COMPUTERS

COMPUTER REPAIR

COMPUTER MEDIC

Complete Computer Service
Now offering good deals on refurbished PCs, laptops, & MacIntosh computers.

Professional service at a fair price.

Call 512-442-7991
MC*Visa*Amex*Discover

420 COUNSELING

RELATIONSHIP/DATING WORKSHOP Do you really want a relationship? Are you tired of not attracting the

"right" one? This workshop is a hard hitting high confront look at what it takes to find and keep the relationship you always wanted. More

information at http://www.asklois.com/classes.htm or call 445-0627

425 HEALTH WELLNESS

ALKALINE WATER Change Your Water! Change Your Life! Benefits of drinking Alkaline Water. www.thesuperwater.net

Call Sandra (512) 415-7669.

ROLFING (R) Feels Great. State of the Art Bodywork. 20 years Experience. Allison Hubbard, Certified Rolfer (512) 441-4001.

430 HOME

CONSTRUCTION

New construction/remodeling Decks, Boat docks, fences Quality is our standard.

512-228-8306

HANDYMAN

Rent-A-Husband does

Home Improvements such as

Remodeling, Repairs & Small Jobs. Call for FREE estimate. 258-0378.

HOME REPAIRS!

Call us for a FREE ESTIMATE!

We do Painting, Dry Wall & Insulation, Remove Popcorn, Repair Cracks in Walls, Tape & Float Texture, Acoustic Ceiling Panels, Replace Baseboards, Venetian Plaster and more!

Quality Work for Less $$.

Call us now for an estimate!
(512) 292-6184

JUNK REMOVAL GOT JUNK??? Low Price Junk Removal. Most Anything Hauled! Thorough & Friendly! Brandon 696-7786

LANDSCAPING, Yard Work/ Painting. Trees, Hauling, Moving, Clean-Up, handyman. Luis 243-3466 or 554-7198 anytime.

LANDSCAPING Lawn Shrub Maintnence/Installation, Tree trimming, Stone patios, beds, retaining walls, and walkways. Call 659-7200

LAWNCARE

LAWN SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY

Will mow lawns for reasonable price with a quiet electric lawn mower.

Call today!

(512)693-0388

PLUMBING

Henderson Plumbing.

Licensed Plumbing Repair & Drain Cleaning. 29 yrs. exp. Austin attitude,
Clean Personal Service.

Call 452-5963 leave message.

REMODELING/REPAIR

HOME REMODEL & REPAIR

"Old School Craftsmanship with Integrity"
• Painting, Carpentry, Powerwashing & More
• Free Estimates • Reliable • References
• Satisfaction Guaranteed

(512)450-3391

435 FINANCIAL

GOVERNMENT $600 WEEKLY POTENTIAL$$$ Helping the Government PT. No Experience, No Selling. Call: 1-888-213-5225 Ad Code L-5. VOID in Maryland and South Dakota. (AAN CAN)

HOME Stop trading time for money. Achieve personal & financial freedom now. Lucrative home based biz. Serious only. 888-736-7622.

HOME BUSINESS Run a business from your kitchen table. Free training & support. Take control of your life. $200k first year potential

888-879-4424
www.RayAndLisaJ.com

HOME BUSINESS DATA ENTRY PROCESSORS Needed! Earn $3,500-$5,000 Weekly Working from Home! Guaranteed Paychecks! No Experience Necessary! Positions Available Today! Register Online Now!

http://www.DataPositions.com (AAN CAN)

LOAN Need a business/personal loan? Bad credit? $5K and up! Our consulting services will help you! Call 630-812-8958

440 FITNESS TRAINING

KICKBOXING BE A KNOCK OUT!!! Kickboxing, MMA, JKD, Kali & Kids Classes. Private & Group Lessons with AM & PM Classes Monday - Saturday available. First 20 people who mention this ad receive 20% OFF Tuition! Call 821-3637 Now!!! or Visit us online at www.Kickboxing-Austin.com

450 LICENSED MASSAGE

A BLISSFUL TOUCH

Warm hands, warm heart. Heated table. Heated oils. Lmt#5028

Kimberly 417-4141

ALTERNATIVE Esalen, 26 years experience. Perfect relaxation massage. Private setting. Shower. Convenient location. $10 off. Janet, 892-8877. LMT#2271.

ALTERNATIVE

Asian Sensations Massage Therapy.

New in town.
Near Braker & Lamar.
In/Out Calls 704-4320

ALTERNATIVE LMT 31534

THE (GETAWAY) mystic music/candlight/scent of jasmine/glass of wine. 445-0280

ALTERNATIVE lmt#31534

.....??DRAPING??.....

.....THATS FOR WINDOWS.....

.....Call KAT 445-0280.....

ALTERNATIVE Renew and recharge with a luxuriously relaxing and blissfully comforting full body warm oil massage by Sharon! (LMT011399) Ben White/Manchaca area. Candle light, shower facility,soft music, peaceful environment! http://www.xanga.com/true_relaxations 512-444-3831

ALTERNATIVE

SOOTHING...

Long Trip, Long Flight
Long Day?
Stressed, Exhausted, Sore?
RELAX
Calming bath & massage.
ANNE 444-5985
VISA/MC (LMT#13296)

HOME REPAIRS
FREE ESTIMATES on:
Painting, Dry Wall, Wall Crack Repair, Popcorn Removal, Acoustic Ceilings, Insulation, Venetian Plaster & Much More!
QUALITY WORK FOR LESS $$
292-6184

GOT JUNK?
LOW PRICE JUNK REMOVAL
BRANDON 696-7786

ROOM FU
Interior Makeovers
PORTFOLIO & RATE INFO ONLINE
ROOMFU.COM
(512) 797-5821

KaTisis Hair and Nail Studio
13851 Pond Springs Rd., Suite 302
Austin, TX 78729 • 918-0114
Let the stylists of KaTisis create the new you!

HINCKLEY CONSTRUCTION, INC.
NEW CONSTRUCTION/REMODELING
DECKS, BOAT DOCKS & FENCES
ph. 512.228.8306
Quality Is Our Standard!

DATING PROFILE WIZARD
Frustrated with your online dating experience?
The trouble is not YOU, *it's your* PROFILE.
Let me teach you how to:
• Correct the 7 fatal errors that men & women make
• Create instant attraction using key words
• Dramatically increase the quality & quantity of contacts
• Set yourself apart from the crowd & shine!
For A 1 on 1 Personal Consultation Call: 512-228-6085

Henderson Plumbing
452-5963
• Licensed plumbing repair
• Drain cleaning
• 29 years experience
• Clean, personal service
• Austin attitude
452-5963
Leave message.

RENT-A-HUSBAND
Home Improvements such as Remodeling, Repairs, & Small Jobs
FREE ESTIMATES
CALL 258-0378

Travis Construction Management
Commercial/Residential
General Contractor
Remodels · Repairs · New Construction
512-696-5992 · info@tcmaustin.net

print AND web design SERVICES
KAREN BARRY
CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT
karenbarry.com 512.659.6297

Computer Medic
Complete Computer Service
Now offering good deals on refurbished PCs, laptops, and MacIntosh computers
512 • 442 • 7991
Professional service at a fair price
MC - VISA - AMEX - DISCOVER

HOME
REMODEL & REPAIR
• Painting, Power Washing, Carpentry & more!
• Free Estimates
• Reliable
• References
Old School Craftsmanship with integrity
Satisfaction Guaranteed!
450-3391

Environmentally friendly
LAWN SERVICE
• Reasonable price
• Quiet, electric mower
Call today
693-0388

ALTERNATIVE to pain and stress. Austin's best professional therapeutic massage to relieve, relax, and revitalize. Easy access from North & Central Austin. HOLIDAY SPECIALS! 789-6278,

Nanette, LMT017147

ALTERNATIVE Massage & Esthetic Services by Friendly, Open-Minded Male LMT/Esthetician FOR MEN & WOMEN. Offering Swedish and deep tissue Massage. Offering Waxing/Sugaring, Facials, and Body Treatments. Specializing in Male Grooming/ Manscaping. For more information, a list of FAQ's and a detailed pricelist and other services, check out my website at www.spaboyblu.com or call me at 512-698-3458,

in/out call services. Super Affordable Rates!

LMT#105875

ALTERNATIVE lmt#31534

OPEN WEEKENDS

12 NOON-9PM

Call Kathleen 445-0280

ALTERNATIVE Relaxation Therapy. Downtown office, LMT39649 (512) 653-3438.

ALTERNATIVE lmt 31534

Massage is like a Box of Chocolate: Ya-never know.

....445-0280....

BODYWORK MEDICAL

Injuries/Medical/Sports

Got Pain? Bring It On!

"I Like A Good Challenge!"

SxSRest Massage LMT

27632 Steve 477-5772/3333.

CHINESE MASSAGE

NOW OPEN! Improve circulation, Remove Soreness, Reduce Stress with Deep Tissue, Accupressure, Table Shower, and Foot Massage. New Asia Health Spa 11139 N IH35) SE corner of I35/ Braker) 512-973-3150

LMT#101497

DEEP SWEDISH

Gay Friendly N. Austin massage. Trained in Austin 6 yrs exp. Quiet, private studio. Shower available. www.HealToSoul.com Call Bruce 673-8072 or email Bruce@healtosoul.com. LMT#38417

DEEP TISSUE C-FIT Deep Tissue Massage, In/Out. Call Robb, leave message (512)785-8337 (LMT6364) booh4ume2@yahoo.com

DEEP TISSUE/SWEDISH 12 yrs. exp. Initial 1 1/2 hr $65. Nina Powers LMT#8574

708-1970

bodyharmonymassage.com

EXPERIENCED HANDS!

20 years experience

•Deep Tissue

•Swedish

•Feather-Touch Bliss

In/Out Calls-Evening Hours

(512)462-1456

GENERAL Treat yourself to a relaxing hot oil, full-body Swedish massage in a candle-lit, private room/

shower, 24/7, in/out calls. Clint 775-9164 - LMT# 34842

GENERAL Total Relaxation & Relief Guaranteed! Late night appointments, IN/OUT calls, and credit cards are cool. Mike 745-4890.

LMT#18894

GENERAL Pamper Yourself. In/Outcalls, 24/7, Private Studio, Shower. FULL BODY MASSAGE by James. Call 554-2248 (LMT017905)

GENERAL SOOTHING

MASSAGE. Swedish, Deep Relaxation, Amazing Touch, Full Body Massage,

Acupressure. By

Appointment ONLY. 258-1592 In Call North Austin on Jollyville Road LMT 042276

GENERAL Comfortable, quiet, considerate, careful and thoughtful. 470-6525 (LMT013588).

GENERAL NURTURING TOUCH, "Sense-sational" Full Body Relaxation. Central. Linda (LMT4330) 445-5452.

GENERAL

www.awesometouch.com

Mature clients preferred. Heated table. Sandy *** LMT# 2474 *** 326-8521 ***

GENERAL * PAMPER YOURSELF! * The Executive Touch Massage. Specializing in Total Relaxation. Call Kim 828-2151, LMT023154

GENERAL A Great Massage for Men by Bob. North location (LMT#013795) Call 9am-10pm, 7 days/week. (512) 296-4111.

GENERAL NOW OPEN. Relax - Relieve - Enjoy. Swedish Massage, Deep & Soft Tissue, Full Body Massage, hot stone treatment. Bee Cave Rd, quiet office. LMT#39907. Call 698-1615 or 905-7668

GENERAL TFemale

Therapist, trained in

pampering located in Austin. N IH-35 & 183. M-TH. Gisela 325-423-2754. LMT#19847

GENERAL

GIFT YOURSELF

To a luxurious deep-tissue Swedish massage from a very empathetic therapist. Located East Central/University area. Kasey Smith, LMT#17406.

457-8496

LICENSED MASSAGE Therapeutic relief. Inut calls.

9am to 7pm daily. Call Eva 512-282-4426. lmt# 3830

PRESSURE POINT

PRESSURE POINT MASSAGE & FACIALS

Specializing in Chinese

Pressure Point Massage and Deep Pore Facial.

Southwest Austin

Pao-Chuan (Bonnie Yu),

LMT #23296, 656-2054

RELAXATION Massage by young college student. Call Greg for soothing massage. In/Out calls. LMT# 22435. Cellular, 512-496-3527.

RELAXATION Massage for men by talented male masseur. Michael Alan (LMT021801) 636-4200.

RELAXATION Full Body

Massage for the

discriminating man; soothing techniques to remedy your needs; weekdays, 6-9 PM, Wkends/Holidays, 10A-9P; Don, 970-1131, Zilker Pk. area. LMT#032673

SUPPLIES

MORNING STAR

TRADING COMPANY

Austin's Largest Inventory of Massage & Aromatherapy Supplies

Licensed Massage

(ME#0889)

GREAT SELECTION!

MASSAGE TABLES & CHAIRS

(ME#0889)

1919 S 1st St

(512)476-1727

MORNING STAR TRADING COMPANY

SWEDISH Massage Therapy Swedish, Hot Stone, Reiki. 9am - midnight. 636-3661. LMT #40870.

SWEDISH Relaxing, experienced and tailored to your individual needs. South Austin location 707-8018. Marilyn Marques LMT030602

SWEDISH

NURTURING...

INTUITIVE...

HOLISTIC

15yrs experience.

New location, Beautiful

Central Austin/Westlake

location 360/MoPac area. (MT#010471)

www.sarahrosemassage.com

Call Sarah at

(512) 590-4554

BODY AND SOUL Lost faith in Dionne? Miss Cleo steer you wrong? Couldn't get tickets for "Crossing Over?" Try a psychic in The Austin Chronicle's Body & Soul section and finally reveal the meaning behind that Adam Sandler dream.

455 PSYCHIC ASTROLOGY

PSYCHIC READINGS Tarot or Channeled Writing. Austin unique. This is it. Donations only. Call (512)569-4767.

465 MISCELLANEOUS

DATING PROFILE WIZARD

Frustrated with your online dating experience? Let me teach you how to:

*Correct the 7 fatal errors that men and women make

*Create instant attraction on your profile with keywords

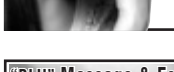
*Dramatically increase the quality and quantity of

contacts

*Set yourself apart from the crowd and shine!

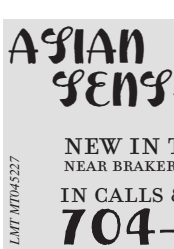
For a consultation call: (512)228-6085





























510 ACTIVITIES

ARCHERY Junior Olympic www.aajoad.com and Adult Training Programs http://archery.meetup.com/14/ Class 1: First-Time Qualifying Sessions, Saturdays 1:30-3:30 Jan. 4 Winter 9-week Junior Olympic Class 2 Sundays 4-6 Jan. 10 Adult 2009 10-week Winter League Sat. 4-6. USA Archery-certified instructors. All equipment provided.

PICKUP ARTIST Social Network - PUAGathering.Com

515 CLASSES WORKSHOPS

PUBLIC SPEAKING Stop stuttering. Overcome Fear. Get out more & get laid more. Ask for a raise! Guaranteed results from trained professionals! (512) 554-8771

www.fearlessspeaking.net

SCREENWRITERS Veteran Hollywood writer & script consultant David Petersen is giving special workshops for screenwriters, starting Jan.28. Details at scriptguy2.com or email wordster1@gmail.com

SPANISH

Someday, I'll Learn SPANISH!!??

No luck with traditional

classes and workbooks? Hate Studying? Don't have much time? Think learning can't be fun? Use your whole brain by tapping into the

extraordinary mental

capacities we all have, but seldom use, with the most advanced and enjoyable teaching and learning

method available today. 263-9944 * All Levels * Class Schedules, Fees and more at **http://www.RapidSpanish.com**

SPANISH Learn to speak Spanish. This ongoing course relies heavily on visual material, word association and games. http://www.creativelanguagecenter.com 453-8680.

530 GENERAL

ADOPTION PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching

Birthmothers with Families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions

866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

ADOPTION Considering adoption? Childless couple, stay-at-home parent seeks to adopt. Creative professionals

w/sense of humor, loving/ stable home. Financial security. Expenses paid. John & Tim. 1-877-481-9774 (AAN

CAN)

ADOPTION: A devoted childless couple with puppy wish to adopt a newborn. Love, laughter, secure future await. Elyse & Alan. 1-800-257-7553. www.ElyseAndAlan.com.

535 LOST & FOUND

LOST DOG Lost Best Friend!!! Beans is a red-nose female pit bull. She is spayed, golden tan with a white chest. Last seen wearing her green collar with tags. $$$$ REWARD for the kind stranger who returns her to her family. If found, please call Mark at 512-947-0018.

LOST DOG Lost Female White Mini Schnauzer on 12/20 Rutland Area. Reward!!! Call 281-610-7366

LOST DOG Please help us find Duke. He has been missing since Friday December 19th. He is a neutered tan and buff Labrador Retriever. He has bright golden eyes and a brown nose. He has darker ears and a darker ridge down his back. He weighs around 90-100lbs and is very friendly and excitable. Please help bring him home. There is a reward to whoever does no questions asked. Call us anytime at 512-576-7939

545 LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE Schroeder Construction Company, Ltd. is soliciting bids from MBE/WBE subcontractors for the following City of Austin Project: Wells Branch Parkway Improvements CIP # 8071-6207-9061, bidding January 15, 2009 at 10:00 AM. Areas of specialty include: Erosion Control, Traffic Control & Signs, Hauling, Surveying, Asphalt / Paving, Concrete, Photography, Fencing & Pipe Suppliers, Call Susan 512 219-6001 or fax your quote to 512 219-7977.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle(s) will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 30 days.

Garagekeeper: Pinkies American Towing Inc

8917 Circle Dr

Austin TX, 78736

512-233-4869

1976 Chevrolet Pickup

LP#KHC391 NM

Vin # CCL447S121913

car talk

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

THIS GIFT IS GOOD TO GO

Dear Tom and Ray:

I am an old lady, 83, and I have a 2003 Ford Focus coupe with all the bells and whistles and only 3,000 miles on it. It has sat in my Ohio garage since 2004 with only an occasional one-mile trip around the block. My granddaughter graduates from college this summer, and I want to give her this car, but the local garage says it isn't safe, that it needs new everything, even tires. Please, say it ain't so. Just what do I need to replace? I have had the oil and gas changed and the brakes sanded. What else do I need to do? Thank you for your help. – Irene

TOM: Nothing. The car should be perfect just the way it is, Irene.

RAY: I agree. Safety experts – and tire salesmen, I might add – now say that tires should be replaced after six years, regardless of tread wear. They say that the rubber dries out and degrades, making the tires less safe, even if the tires aren't used much.

TOM: So you might want to consider giving her an additional gift of tires next year for her birthday. Or let some other family member do that. But otherwise, just give her the keys, and tell her to please drive safely.

RAY: She's a lucky girl to have you as a grandmother, Irene. All I got from my grandmother were some Italian phrases that I'm not allowed to use in public.

* * *

What is the most cost-effective way to buy a car? Tom and Ray hash it all out in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send $4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

* * *

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website, **www.cartalk.com**.

Tune in to *Car Talk* each Saturday at 9am on

kut 90.5 AUSTIN TEXAS

©2004 by Tom & Ray Magliozzi and Doug Berman
Distributed by King Features Syndicate

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Uncle Bob's Self Storage locations listed below; And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash Only.

Uncle Bob's #285

9717 U.S. HWY 290 E

Austin, TX 78724

(512)278-1220

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 @ 9:00 AM

#518 Demoine Sauls: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip, office equip, office machines

#540 Karl Beck: household goods, furniture, boxes

#627 Michael Hutchinson: household goods, furniture, boxes

#823 Stacie Flot-Sephus: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, construction equip

#2201 Michael Dubose: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip, office equip, office machines, account records

Uncle Bob's #231

8227 North Lamar

Austin, TX 78753

(512) 833-0855

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 @ 10:00 AM

#504 Tracy Wagher: other, games

#717 Felix Mbah: household goods

#812 Paul Ruiz: household goods, tv or stereo equip, furniture, boxes, appliances

#901 Diana Potter: household goods, furn.

#919 Michael Fouts: household goods, furn., boxes

#929 Kim Davis: furn, boxes, tv or stereo equip

#936 Cynthia Perez: household goods

#960 Charell Lemuel: household goods, furn, boxes

#1005 Christina R. Villarreal: boxes, household goods, furn, tools, appliances, tv or stereo equip, office machines, construction equip

#1007 Diana Sheridan: household goods, furn, boxes, tv or stereo equip

#1013 Mark Wilson: household goods

#1019 Carolyn J. Rolls: household goods, furn, boxes, appliances, tv or stereo equip

#1111 Herbert John Boleyn: household goods, boxes, tools, landscaping equip

#1307 Catherine Hardway: household goods, furn, boxes, tools

#1319 Elizabeth Mauro: boxes, furn

#1411 Tom Holdridge: household goods, furn, boxes

#1414 Melinda Castillo: household goods, furn, boxes, appliances, tv or stereo equip, account records

#1516 Amber Nepodal: household goods, furn, boxes, musical equip, tuba

Uncle Bob's #276

2830 South A.W. Grimes Blvd

Round Rock, TX 78664

(512)310-0279

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 @ 11:00 AM

#219 Paula McClure: household goods, furniture, tv's or stereo equip

#304 Maria Spiritelli: household goods, furniture, boxes, tv's or stereo equip

#2105 Evelyn Chavez: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, tv's or stereo equip, office machines, construction equip

#2403 Roman Saucedo: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances

#3325 Joe Moreland: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip, office equip, office machines, landscaping equip, account records

#4102 Lavinia Lewis: furniture

#4120 Manuel Velasquez: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools

#4126 Tammy S. Cook: furniture, boxes, tv's or stereo equip

#4404 Keisha Brooks: household goods, furniture, tv's or stereo equip, account records

#5113 Paul Calderon: household goods, furniture, boxes, tv's or stereo equip

#5230 Martina Machado: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, tv's or stereo equip

#6106 Candace Fowler: furniture, boxes

#6219 Eric Earley: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances

#8311 Hobert Chad Smith: household goods, furniture

#9550 Kativa Roe: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, tv's or stereo equip, account records

Uncle Bob's #197

5547 McNeil Dr.

Austin, TX 78729

(512)336-8390

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 @ 12 noon

#401 Komica Brooks: hshld goods, furn, boxes, tv's or stereo equip

#409 Michael Stapp: hshld goods, furn, boxes, sporting goods, tools, tv's or stereo equip, office equip, const. equip

#804 Sherrie D. Byrd: hshld goods, furn, boxes, acct. records

#1101 Ricardo Rivera: hshld goods, boxes, tv's or stereo equip

#1317 Tito Rangel: hshld goods, furn, boxes

#1748 William Diggs: hshld goods, furn, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, tv's or stereo equip, office equip, office machines, landscaping equip, acct. records, sales samples

#1807 Denise Lamb: hshld goods, furn, boxes, tools, appliances, landscaping equip

Uncle Bob's #287

6509 South First Street

Austin, TX 78745

(512)326-9696

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 @ 1:30 PM

#117 Paulo Casillas: furniture, tools, appliances

#219 Roxanne Rios: furniture, boxes

#380 Lawn Doctors Sutton Jason: boxes, tools, office equip, construction equip, landscaping equip

#1140 Jessica Denise Romero: furniture, boxes

#3143 Amy Pate: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, tv's or stereo equip

#3213 Kelly Goble: furniture, boxes, tv's or stereo equip

#3344 Karla Callaway: household goods, furniture, boxes, tv's or stereo equip

#3354 Deidra Castillo: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances

Kinchion: furniture. #6332 Marilyn Robinson: household furniture. #6406 Brad Turner: guitar and misc. #6410 Peter Polson: household misc. #6419 Julio Triston: toys, clothing, and misc. #6855 Fredrick Battle: bike and household misc. #7022 Ashley Mims: household. #7025 Christopher Dove: furniture. #8006 Daniel Goodson: household misc.

the COMMON LAW

by Luke Ellis

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

CAN I CHANGE MY NAME WITHOUT A LAWYER?

I got married six months ago and am finally getting around to changing my last name. How do I do it? Do I need to get a lawyer?

There are lots of reasons why someone might consider changing his or her name. Whether someone has a family situation that necessitates the change (marriage, adoption, etc.), wants to make a statement (remember the basketball player "World B. Free"), or just wants to sound cool (i.e., the long list of celebrities who have changed their names), he or she will need to get permission from a court to do so. Texas law does not, however, require someone to hire a lawyer in order to legally change his or her name. And because the process is fairly straightforward, many choose to change their names without the help of a lawyer.

In Texas, an adult who wants to change his or her name must file a petition requesting a change of name in the county where the adult resides. The petition filed with the court must include basic information about the person requesting the name change (name, sex, race, date of birth, driver's license number, Social Security number, and criminal history), the new name being requested, the reason the change in name is requested, and whether the person has ever been convicted of a felony. A legible copy of the adult's fingerprints must also be provided.

The court will grant the request if it finds the change of name is in the best interests of the person and the state. The person seeking the name change can then apply to the clerk of the court for a Change of Name Certificate for a $10 fee. The certificate serves as proof of the name change. There are additional requirements to comply with when trying to change the name of a child. In cases of divorce, the final divorce decree can be used to get court approval for a name change.

Keep in mind that a person does not have an absolute right to have his or her name changed. A court may deny a request for a name change if it believes the request is designed to allow the person making the request to avoid creditors, hide from a checkered criminal past, or commit a fraudulent act. On the other hand, it is fairly easy for an adult to have his or her name legally changed if the request is made in good faith. Check out Chapter 45 of the Texas Family Code (**tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/fa.toc.htm**) for more information regarding name changes in Texas.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to **thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com**. *Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.*

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION

Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation: **ALL WAY STOP AT BLUE BLUFF ROAD AND DECKER LAKE ROAD INTERSECTION IN PRECINCT ONE.**

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposal action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing.

Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION A Public Auction will be held to satisfy landlord's lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. **Sales will be held January 17, 2009. A sale will be held at 9:00 a.m., at A-A-A Storage 227 Park 35 Cove North, Buda, Phone 512-312-2227. A sale will be held at 11:00 a.m., at 4405 IH 71 East, Del Valle, Phone 512-247-9708. A sale will be held at 1:00 p.m., at Hwy 183, 8956 Research Blvd, Austin, Phone 512-338-9900. A sale will be held at 3:00 p.m., at 10707 IH 35 North, Austin, Phone 512-977-9775.** All units will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Clean up and removal deposit will be required. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid. Sales include items from the following tenants' storage spaces: #437 Mary Esquivel: misc. #481 Jose Careaga: bedroom/living room furniture and misc. boxes. #113 Mandy Simpsom: boxes, misc. items. #476 Blair Boies: shelf's, misc. items. #319 Cortni Fuson: furniture, lamps, vacuum, misc. #5604 Patrick Lusk: VHS 2, furniture, boxes. #2318 Sara Wilson: misc. #2351 Carlos Reyna: household. #6317 Dorthy

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Alvin Lowell Bennett, Jr., Deceased, were issued on December 22, 2008, in Cause No. 89,758, pending in the Probate Court Number 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Sharon Lynn Wright.

Claims may be addressed, in care of the representative, as follows: Sharon Lynn Wright,

Independent Executor

9203 Quail Cove

Austin, TX 78758

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 23rd day of December, 2008.

/s/ John J. Migl

ATTORNEY FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of

Shirley Foy Riddell, Deceased, were issued on December 15, 2008, in Cause No. 08-0493-CP4, pending in the County Court at Law No. 4, Williamson County, Texas, to: Stephen Riddell.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Stephen Riddell

c/o Steven A. Gonzales

15708 Monona Cv.

Austin, Texas 78717

DATED December 22, 2008.

Cirkiel & Associates, P.C.

1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.

Round Rock, Texas 78664

Telephone: (512)244-6658

Facsimile: (512)244-6014

By: /s/ Steven A. Gonzales

Attorney for Stephen Riddell

State Bar No.: 24053232

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of

Bruce Van Wagner, Deceased, were issued on December 1, 2008, in Cause No. 08-0479-CP4, pending in the County Court at Law No. 4, Williamson County, Texas, to: Cynthia Ann Slater.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Cindy Slater

c/o Steven A. Gonzales

40205 Heritage Hollow

Georgetown, Texas 78628

DATED December 22, 2008.

Cirkiel & Associates, P.C.

1901 E. Palm Valley Blvd.

Round Rock, Texas 78664

Telephone: (512)244-6658

Facsimile: (512)244-6014

By: /s/ Steven A. Gonzales

Attorney for Cynthia Ann Slater

State Bar No.: 24053232

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Betty Jenkins aka Betty J. Jenkins, aka Betty Jean Jenkins and aka Betty Jane Jenkins, Deceased, were issued on December 22, 2008, in Cause No. 89701, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Kathleen A. Jenkins.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Representative, Estate of Betty Jenkins aka Betty J. Jenkins, aka Betty Jean Jenkins and aka Betty Jane Jenkins

7501 Bluff Springs Road

Austin, Texas 78744

DATED the 22nd day of December, 2008.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On December 22, 2008, Catherine M. Gauger was appointed Independent Executor of the Estate Gerhard M. Gauger, Deceased, in Cause No. 89722, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of Independent Executor is c/o Andrew C. Friedmann, Attorney & Counselor at Law, 4408 Spicewood Springs Road, Austin, Texas 78759, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Electronic Agenda/Minutes and Audio/Video Streaming, P#090043SW

Opens: January 20, 2009 @ 2PM

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL HEARING WILL BE JANURY 8, 2009 @ 2PM

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO ENGINEERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that qualification statements will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Design of Travis County Bridges Project, Precinct 1 and 2, RFQ Q090072LP

Opens: January 22, 2009 @ 2PM

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 8, 2009 @10AM

Qualifications statements should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp.

MOTOR

610 CARS

BUY AUTO Don't lose money before you trade in or sell. We buy; Cars, Trucks, & SUVs (used or not running). Call 512-442-4444

topdollarspaid.com

88 HONDA CIVIC four door 5 speed. Just went thru it and did our 65 point check. Wow! New clutch, brakes, CV axles, and much more. A warranty on a 20 year old car? You bet. $1650. 836-9767 autodepotaustin.com

92 NISSAN SENTRA two-door, auto, good mechanical transportation, with a warranty! $1,950. 836-9767 autodepotaustin.com

94 NISSAN XTRA cab pickup, 135k., runs, drives excellent. AC. Couple dents. $2,650. 836-9767 autodepotaustin.com

95 MERCEDES SL-320, two seater roadster, in process of complete, professional paint job. This car will be a '10,' and we can take your car in trade. $13,950. 836-9767 autodepotaustin.com

95 HONDA ACCORD fourdoor, auto, EX, loaded with leather. Unbelievably clean with only 84,000 miles. Warranty. $4,950. 836-9767 autodepotaustin.com

FORD THUNDERBIRD '79

(351) 134,000 miles.

It used to be my daily driver but it has been sitting in my garage for 2 years. It starts and runs great but needs a good tune up. New tires and battery. Mechanic owned for it's first 25 years. I was going to restore it but realized I was never going to get to it.

$650 OBO. 512-680-7905.

96 HONDA CIVIC EX two-door coupe. Very clean, nice, $4,450 with a full warranty. 836-9767 autodepotaustin.com

98 TOYOTA 4RUNNER, 4 cyl. Clean, nice, warranty. $5,500. 836-9767 autodepotaustin.com

620 SUV'S

NISSAN X'TERRA 2004
Silver, 4 door, auto, 48,000 miles, cold a/c, cruise, cd, great condition, recently had full check up & oil change. Was given new car as gift. Flexible day/time to see. $13,000. 626-6769

TRADE UP

POST A FREE MOTOR AD +

SHOP MOTOR ONLINE

THE CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/tradeup

MUSIC

715 MUSIC INSTRUCTION

ACCELERATED MUSIC LESSONS AlanRoy.com.

Guitar, bass, voice, mandolin, music theory; by ear or notes. 797-1906.

ALL



Red Leaf School of Music offers a professional, natural way of learning for all ages and levels.

Acoustic and Electric Guitar, Electric and Upright Bass, Drums, Voice, Piano, Harmonica, and Mandolin.

Private lessons, Group lessons for kids, teens, and adults and Summer Music Camps.

Instrument rental and a variety of programs and packages available.

4800 S 1st St. Austin, TX 78745

512-444-GROW (4769)

redleafschoolofmusic.com

grow@redleafschoolofmusic.com

CLASSES

Fun audio recording and mixing classes. Alta Vista Recording 512-326-5490 altavistarecording.com

DRUMS NICK'S DRUM STUDIO My mission is to open the door for drumset musicians to the full process of learning the instrument.

New double bass lessons.

FREE first lesson / evaluation. www.austindrumteacher.com. 512.255.1786

HARMONICA Michael Rubin michaelrubinharmonica.com 619-0761

MUSIC INSTRUCTION

Lone Star

School of Music

Fall Special 20% off first month. We offer private lessons on guitar, bass, voice, piano, violin, banjo, mandolin and more!

Close to Mueller 524.5252

lonestarschoolofmusic.com

VOCAL Instruction & Coaching for singers, aspiring singers & songwriters. All ages, All levels. With experienced teacher & acclaimed singer/songwriter. 386-9428

www.lisarichardsmusic.com

VOCAL Speak & sing like a pro! Guaranteed results from trained professionals! Voice-overs, singing, public speaking and more. (512) 554-8771 www.austinvocallab.com

VOICE LESSONS for singers of all ages. All experience levels welcome. Call Emily Bem at 784-7728.

VOICE TRAINING Technique of the Stars. Certified Speech level singing.

www.OctaveHigher.com

FREE ADS Looking to hire a bartender? Have an apartment you need to rent? Want to advertise your handyman skills? All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

720 MUSICIANS AVAILABLE

BASS Ego-hassle-free, image savvy, edumacated basster. Looking for equally savvy musicians for a cover band project. My experience and perspicacity tell me that's what the chicks and the clubs dig. I have been in SRV/Hendrix and U2 tribute bands and am wondering what an unfilled niche might be. Knowing Austin, I'd take a wager on a merger of Johnny Cash and David Bowie, maybe under a band moniker such as Ghost Riders from Mars (Nuthin' Fancy). Added bonus: the band gets to play for 280 students at UT and have them bring over friends to our shows. What sez you? Jay 512-786-1759

GUITAR Looking to start a new band. Rock/punk. I play guitar, bass and sing. Also, can play the drums alright. I have equipment for all these so if ya need a bassist, guitar, or a drummer, no matter the type of music, hit me up. Looking forward to it. brandonfurst@gmail.com

725 MUSICIANS WANTED

BASS All original rock band looking for a versatile and dedicated bassist with pro gear and transport....!!!...b/w teh ages of 18-35....!!!..check out the tunes...if interested contact us...we practice twice a week in georgetown.....PEACE OUT Waz (512) 577 8285

DRUMS/PERCUSSION city of hungry ghosts is looking for a visually dynamic drummer not afraid of electronics & unconventional approaches to making music. reference death from above 1979, crash worship, butthole surfers, boredoms, etc. down to play out, record, tour. etc. yeah we know money makes the world go round but don't hit us with that straight away, lets see if you can hang, play, & vibe first. here's our myspace so & label site so you can get a since of if your interested. www.myspace.com/cityofhungryghosts www.gomiheartelectric.com gomikitti@gmail.com

730 RECORDING STUDIOS

ALBUM BIG room BIG sound 10 yrs in Austin - jacketweather.com - 512.731.6094

ALL

8 hrs/$150

Great New Specials

512-326-5490

AltaVistaRecording.com

IGNITING EXCELLENCE

ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS

THE AUTO DEPOT

CV AXLES · CLUTCHES · A/C · BRAKES AND EVERYTHING ELSE

VOTED BEST AUTO REPAIR SHOP IN AUSTIN 2004 TO 2007 BY THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

PAINT AND BODY WORK DISCOUNTS... CALL FOR DETAILS.



BEST OF AUSTIN '04 · '05 · '06 · '07

909 PRAIRIE TRAIL

ONE STREET SOUTH OF KRAMER, WEST OF NORTH LAMAR

MON- FRI 8AM-6PM

SAT 10-1PM OR BY APPT.

PHONE UNTIL 9PM @ 294.2885 OR 970.1003 7 DAYS/WEEK FOR ANY OF THESE CARS OR FOR REPAIRS. WE CAN PROBABLY FIND WHAT YOU WANT.

will 228-1802 mark 902-9183

ESPANOL @ 228-1802

www.autodepotaustin.com

DON'T FORGET - WE BUY CARS (RUNNING OR NOT) (ACCIDENTS OKAY)

We need someone to help with restorations. Passion, welding, and careful work a must.

We need an excellent mechanic, schooled in all aspects of car repair.

Email Jannie@austin.rr.com

NEW VEHICLES FOR SALE THIS WEEK: ALL WITH OUR FAMOUS WARRANTY

NEW!!! **1992 Sunbird Convertible**. Great with the top down and the tunes up. $2,500.

NEW!!! **1992 Sentra** two-door, auto, good mechanical transportation, with a warranty! $1,950.

NEW!!! **1995 Mercedes SL-320**, two seater roadster, in process of complete, professional paint job. This car will be a "10" and we can take your car in trade. $11,950.

NEW!!! **1995 Camry**, 4 cyl., great, reliable car with full warranty. $3,950.

NEW!!! **1996 Camry V-6 wagon**. Had minor cosmetic issues, but runs like a champ. 97k. Clean with a full warranty. $4500.

NEW!!! **1997 Ford Ranger**. Only 75,000 miles. Runs great. $4250

NEW!!! **1998 Civic** four door, auto, 150k, in process of 65 point check. Auto., $4450.

NEW!!! **1998 Toyota 4Runner**, 4 cyl. Clean, nice, warranty. $5,500.

NEW!!! **2000 Tacoma V-6**, X-tra cab, great work truck. Warranty. $4250.

NEW!!! **2002 Civic**, four-door, auto 87k., one year warranty. Clean, nice, $7750.

NEW!!! **2002 Corolla,** very clean, warranty. $7,650.

NEW!!! **2003 Corolla** four door, with auto, all power, leather! $8,250, can trade, one year warranty. 75k.

NEW!!! **2004 Honda Civic** 2dr. EX coupe, 5 speed, clean as a pin. Ready soon...Warranty. Can trade. $8,950.

NEW!!! **2007 Nissa Versa** four door, 25k miles. Very, very clean. Can trade. Factory warranty. $12,950.

NEW!!! **2003 Toyota Highlander** Limited, very nice, can trade, warranty, 82k, $10,950.

Got a ticket? Need it Dismissed?
www.drivewideawake.com

CONTINUED 730 RECORDING STUDIOS

CD DUPLICATION MUSIC LAB 100 cd deal for $135. 50 cd deal for $100.

Deals include:

Duplication, 1-color print on CDs and jwl case.

http://www.musiclab.net Call 326-3816 for more info

DUPLICATION/GRAPHICS

Complete Services Under One Roof

Graphics, Printing & Manufacturing. Great service from people who care!

454-8324 or 800-880-0270

SRI SOUND RECORDERS, INC.

WEBSITE Vocals? Check. Guitar player? Check. Keyboards? Check. Still looking for that magic drummer to make your dreams come true? They might be online...check out **austinchronicle.com/classifieds.**

RECORDING RESORT Riversounds is celebrating 10yrs of producing TX orig. music w/ a new exciting package. Week Warrior package: M-F, 12-8PM + engineer. Lodging for 4 inc. on the Llano River. $1000 Call Jerialice 512-217-4596

RECORDING STUDIO

AUSTIN TRAX STUDIO

16 Track 2 inch analog

Automated Trident console

Pro Tools, Wide selection of Vintage outboard gear, microphones and amps

Call 512-835-7677

AustinTrax.com

STUDIO

Live Digital Recordings.

On sight duplication.

Pre printed packages.

Check out audio samples @

www.affordablesound.com

459.5253

735 RENTALS SERVICES

CD/DVD MANUFACTURING Short runs, quick turns, flyers, posters, shrink wrap CDR's, jcases 512-491-7000 www.triazdigital.com

DISTRIBUTION

Austin based record label with Major European Distribution taking submissions from Texas Bands & Artists.

This is for distribution deal only. Band would be responsible for delivering finished Master records, EU pressing expenses and promo costs.

In house Art Department can help with cover art for a fee.

Great royalty split from first sale, European touring possible. Contact

info@tex-tone.com

DOWNLOADS Sell your downloads at your show!

www.austinmusicdownload.com/prettycards.html

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell?

Looking for a roommate?

Want to unload that old refrigerator?

Got a great idea for a band, but missing some musicians?

All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE.

Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad!

You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately.

After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

PROMOTION

12" x 18" GLOSSY POSTERS!

100 - $79!!!

Advertise your shows

512-459-5253

www.affordablesound.com

AFFORDABLESOUND AND CD DUPLICATION

REHEARSAL SPACE Low monthly/daily rates.

Band Co-op. 339-1276 or

DP 473-5050









MUSICIANS REGISTER

HEY BANDS: UPLOAD YOUR **MP3s**

AUSTIN BANDS:
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

If you don't have a ~~MUSICIANS REGISTER~~ entry or you haven't uploaded your **MP3s**, go to **austinchronicle.com/register**.

Anywhere your band is mentioned, your music will be featured.

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com

austinchronicle.com/register

Easy Street



free! CREATE A PROFILE AND BROWSE MORE ADS ONLINE!

austinchronicle.com/easystreet

U MAN ENOUGH
I've played rebound, Cougar, I've been on my own. I am happy and content with myself and my life. Open to a LtR if the right guy comes along. **Ms-Spontaneous**, 37, 📷, **#128825**

MAYBE SOMETHING MORE
I am not a thin, perfect Barbie type, but I have big tits and a firm ass. I'm looking for an attractive M 25-36 who can keep up. **litlred**, 30, ☎, 📷, **#128782**

SLOWBURN
Flirtatious. Coy. Devious. Erotic. Sensual. Immediate. Urgency. Explosion. Calm. Relaxed. Slowburn. Second coming. Exhausted. **tit4tat**, 37, 📷, **#128725**

VERY PLEASING
I'd love to find a couple to explore my body together. I want pampering and to be dominated. I'm petite and love to be thrown into various positions. **lovely**, 26, ☎, 📷, **#128592**

ADVENTUROUS HIPSTER BISEXUAL
I'm a laid-back bisexual female who prefers to be with a guy. I'm looking for a bisexual male who prefers women. Let's hang out. **Dreamin-Pisces**, 21, **#127920**

INTELLECTUAL SUBMISSIVE
If you have a decent vocabulary, a dry sense of humor, and an I.Q. in the triple digits, in addition to a dominating flair in the bedroom then write me. **Bella34**, 35, 📷, **#126130**

JUST PEAKING
Wow didn't know this was out there.I am single and would love to meet my"match".Tend to be attracted to that tall mr. all american type but with a devil inside. **bettyboo**, 36, **#124984**

MALE BODY LOVER
Looking for a "friend" not just a hook-up. Someone who is outgoing, an outdoor lover, intelligent and maybe a bit of a nerd. **rockett2222**, 35, 📷, **#124473**

WILDERNESSGIRL SEEKS TRANS/CROSS
Big Titty, blue eyes, pretty nice looks. Wilderness girl is back in town seeking fun with cross dresser, transexual, and into role playing. An accent is a plus and turnon. **pleime**, 43, **#122521**

IT'S PLAYTIME BOYS
I'm looking for a man that's sweet and caring but i get bored easily so he needs to be full of surprises so that i never get bored. **austinpartygurl1985**, 23, 📷, **#119045**

HOT MARRIED CHICK
Hi! We're a couple looking for hot guys, pretty women and good looking couples to have fun and games with. roleplay, domination, submission, "cheating" and more. No strings allowed, thanx. **anya**, 33, 📷, **#128804**

OUR FIRST THREESOME
We've never had a threesome before but dying to have one, any girls wanna show us the ropes? NO GUYS. **EndZoneDance304**, 23, 📷, **#128614**

HOT CPL4LADY
Depending on the chemistry we are open to anything from friends with benefits to serious relationship. In special instances would we be open to one-time casual encounters. **jezebella83**, 25, 📷, **#128442**

CLASSY COUPLE FOREPLAY
Attractive couple in 30s looking for Woman/Couple. Attracted to you & you to us.For fun drama free erotic pleasure. Should be Open-minded, discreet,playful not pushy. I'm bi, he's straight. **TexasSugar**, 34, 📷, **#128373**

BROADENING HORIZONS
We are a couple looking to spice up our love life. We have decided to try a threesome with another woman to see if it is something we're interested in. **gandf**, 27, 📷, **#128323**

CUTE COUPLE DATEING
Hi! poly couple seeking third. cute and curvy /lean and muscular seeking fun energetic girl to date. **CultLeader**, 21, 📷, **#128309**

FUN NIGHT
Black couple seeking interested female for a night of fun!M y first time so seeking a female who is interested in making this experience one i will not forget! **muffinberries**, 24, 📷, **#128156**

DIRTY DADDY'S GURL
We are a hot, young, lustfull couple looking to play. We are adventurous, unihibited, and occasionally a little dirty. Both enjoy games of the mind and body. **srcn4fun**, 31, ☎, 📷, **#128004**

NAUGHTY FUN WANTED!
Hello, we're a fun, professional, laid-back Austin couple. We're looking for single bi or bi-curious females, and couples, to join us in our naughty adventures. Bring on the fun!!! **ATX-Couple4you**, 32, 📷, **#127995**

DISCREET COUPLE SEEKING...
Couple of 7 yrs seeking female for the hubby. **pandp**, 33, ☎, 📷, **#127831**

BI-CURIOUS FEMALE
I am a very sexy, very fit female looking to explore my bi-sexual fantasies with another woman/women in front of my boyfriend. He is fit, hung, & fun. **looking4fun**, 30, 📷, **#127762**

B OUR PLAYMATE
Couple looking for playmates to play and enjoy one another. Just friends with benefits, no attachments. Just sex,and more sex. **newbies**, 36, 📷, **#127079**

NEW TO AUSTIN
Couple interesting in having a female companion to help spice things up in the bedroom. We are pretty easygoing people and willing to try anything! **Usagistar182**, 24, 📷, **#126862**

SEXY ADVENTUROUS COUPLE
We're a couple in love but looking for erotic experiences with beautiful women. We're relatively new to this, but are up for a delicious sexual experience if you are interested... **foxyloxyngrizzlybear**, 22, ☎, 📷, **#127025**

NAUGHTY GIRLY-GIRLS?
Like shame and humiliation? Want to be walked on a leash? We are your couple... **goodgirlkitty**, 26, 📷, **#126722**

AWESOME COUPLE LOOKING
We are a happy couple that have been together 8 years. We are looking for female playmates. You won't be disappointed. **delvallefun**, 38, 📷, **#126459**

SEXY COUPLE LOOKING
Sexy young couple, looking for a hot lady to get frisky with. A little girl on girl action to start. We would love to be as discret as possible. **luckyone**, 24, 📷, **#126216**

COUPLE SEEK BI-GAL
oh, where do we start this ad? we want a real guy, bi-sexual. a guy that is looking for a couple. 35-55 years old we are 40's. we are cute. **saustincouple**, 45, 📷, **#125567**

FIRST TIME COUPLE
we are a couple in love but wanting to expand our sexual pleasures. this would be our first time but we are very open minded. Couples or females only. **080764**, 44, 📷, **#124403**

SENSUALCPLSEEKING SPICE
We are a committed middle-aged couple interested in experienting with like-minded individuals/couples to add spice to our hot lovemaking. If the words discreet, sensual, erotic, passionate, imaginative, fun interest you, contact us. **garf5848**, 49, 📷, **#123217**

BEAUTIFUL DOMINATE REDHEAD
Dominate red head, who is bi, attractive and LOTS of fun. I'm 5'4", 130 lbs, blue eyes, perky boobs, nice ass and VERY KINKY. I have male partner to join. **MistressDarian**, 37, 📷, **#127653**

SEEKING SWITCH PARTNER
You-looking for fun above all with no pre-conceived expectations. US:Average people looking for an above average fun ;) Prefer bi-sf, couples ok. Inexperienced welcomed. Honesty refreshing. **Bifemaustincpl**, 32, ☎, 📷, **#121712**

GOOD KARMA GIRL
I'm an amateur photographer looking to be a fly on the wall for any and all unusual situations that people will allow me to witness and make art from. **vron**, 42, 📷, **#128575**

SUBMISSIVE FOR MASTER
My master will control and teach me. He should be sucessful caring and giving yet firm. I will give my loyalty and treat him as my king. **Jean-42DDD**, 37, ☎, 📷, **#127400**

WETLIPS
im a wild sex kittin with wet lips and a soft skin, email me for sexy e-mails, ill talk dirty! **highheels23**, 22, ☎, 📷, **#126858**

SHAVED STILETTO STUD
W/M,shaved in stockings and stilettos seeks 3 similar males for 4-some who crave studs in erotic feminine attire while empowering true inner feminity and enjoying our exotic & erotic experiences. **SexyStilletoStud**, 51, 📷, **#128746**

EXPERIMENTAL OLDER MAN
I am a 61 year old 6' 200 lb man work out regularly. Like to meet a man or woman for discrete sexual encounters/email. I think I am bi-sexual. **Old**, 61, 📷, **#128430**

AN INTELLIGENT STONER???
It's been a long while since my last relationship, so I'm just looking for a chill older (20-30ish) guy to chill and have fun with. Open for almost anything. Word. **interstate420**, 19, 📷, **#127967**

UP FOR ANYTHING
48,gwm,6',180#,blk/brn,moderately hairy,partnered but play. looking for men hairy or smooth, uncut preferably, for occaisional playtime. seeking all types of experiences. **oscar**, 48, 📷, **#127611**

IN ABILENE, TEXAS:
SWM, 46, 6'2", 190, 34w, br/gr, handsome, masculine and honest. Seeking a tall, white, handsome, masculine, honest man 35-50 to hang out and see where it goes. **iamluckyru**, 47, ☎, 📷, **#125068**

HOTGUY LOOKING FOR
Hispanic Bottom, looking for a discret encounter and a relationship with a Top guy. I am discret Open to new things with guys around my age or youngers.46yrs. **antonio_3638**, 44, 📷, **#118402**

LOOKING FOR GUY?
Are you an older bi or gay guy, 45+, looking for a discreet guy? Attractive professional, WM, 54, wants to meet one funloving guy. Safe sex, nonsmoking. **115704**, 54, ☎, 📷, **#115704**

CURIOUS FUNSEEKER
I am looking for someone who is also curious and willing to try different things to have discreet encounters or exchange e-mails; no strings attached. **Pugio**, 28, 📷, **#128472**

NO STRINGS ATTACHED!!!
My requests are simple... Discreet, sex, no relationships!!! I am looking for a good one-on-one with the right lady, or a lil company(couple). Whatever the case maybe, I love sex :). **Scatter**, 31, ☎, 📷, **#128434**

HORNDOG, DEVIANT, DORK
just here looking for some discreet fun open to try new things never say never I always say! **church700**, 25, 📷, **#128258**

austinchronicle.com/easystreet

BROWSE these ads and more online for **FREE.**

ENTER your own profile for **FREE.**

RESPOND by e-mail directly through our site with a membership.

This icon 📷 indicates that a photo is posted online.

This icon ☎ means there is a voice message you can listen to. With a membership, you can listen and respond to as many voice messages as your heart desires. There are no 900 #s or per minute fees. Regular long distance charges may apply.

VOICE RESPONSE: 520.547.4259

membership is simple:

EASY STREET

7 day pass	$20.00
30 day pass	$30.00
90 day pass	$60.00

Each pass gives you all-access, unlimited searching, browsing, e-mailing, calling, and responding.

LITLRED

LOOKING TO EXPLORE NEW OPPORTUNITIES

I am open to different encounters...never been with a girl, but always been curious. Still LOVE men though. Looking for attractive, fun, individual who can take charge but not scare me away.

read the rest of LITLRED's profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at

austinchronicle.com/easystreet

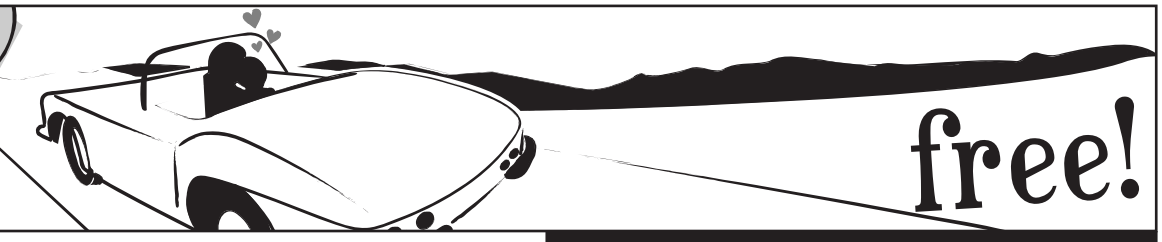
THE LUV DOC

Riverboat Gamblers • Sat., Jan. 3, 9pm
Mohawk • 912 Red River • www.mohawkaustin.com

Prediction: In '09 free will be the new rich. It always has been, really, but this year while millions of Americans are trying desperately to dig their way out from a mountain of debt, just being able to break even and walk away will seem a huge luxury. It's small consolation that the government is in the same boat. Hey, weren't they supposed to be smarter than us? The good news is that that best things in life are supposedly free, which means Gulfstreams, Bugattis, Bolivian marching powder, $1,000 hookers, and GameCubes off the list. Wow, there must be some free shit out there that's really spectacular – stuff that's not included in the gift bags at the Academy Awards or with the Presidential Suite at the Waldorf. Damn! If only there were an online catalog! No, not YouPorn, but something a bit more comprehensive, perhaps even metaphysical. Here's something: Love. You can't put a price tag on that, can you? Sure, you can probably buy something amazingly similar. For instance, if you tucked a couple of billion into Charlize Theron's waistband, she could probably pretend to be a convincing soul mate. Seriously. Did you see her in *Monster*? Of course, she probably wouldn't lay on a grenade for that kind of money, but if you can afford to buy a couple of billion dollars worth of fake love, you should be able to stay out of hand grenade range. Dick Cheney seems to manage on his measly government pension. Dick probably has a cut-rate fake soul mate, too, but you have to think that Deadeye Dick doesn't stay awake nights worrying about whether he feels loved. Another freebie is friendship. It doesn't get the same respect as love, but it's nearly as hard to cultivate. You don't necessarily need to roll with a Suge Knight-sized posse. A few friends are better than none at all. Real friends will stick with you regardless of the situation. Whether you're standing in a soup line or snorting rails with supermodels in the back of a stretch limo, good friends will always be there for you: holding your hair back when you vomit, taking the B team on the double date, making bail, pointing out the hot chick's Adam's apple … you can't put a price on that … at least not with anything on the gold standard. Lastly there is the beauty and splendor of the world itself. Yes, that's largely a matter of perspective. It's easy enough to find beauty in majestic mountain ranges, breathtaking coastlines, sweeping plains, and the like, but most people experience the world on a much more limited scale: deteriorating privacy fences, lots overgrown with weeds, car alarms, barking dogs, the smell of urine on the sidewalk, ShamWow ads. If you're somehow able to see beauty in a plastic bag swirling around in a whirlwind, you're as rich as the pope, spiritually speaking at least. Either that, or you're really stoned and wasting videotape. Point is, you don't need money to enjoy life, but you do need a certain amount of freedom. This year it looks like money will be in short supply. Good thing some of the bars in the Red River District are having free week to start off the new year. Between Jan. 2 & 10, the Mohawk, Club de Ville, Red 7, Beauty Bar, Emo's, and others will be presenting free shows. This Saturday at the Mohawk, you can see the Riverboat Gamblers for absolutely nothing. That's really spectacular. Get on it.

Get **THE LUV DOC** all up in your inbox every week! Go to **austinchronicle.com/luvdoclist** and get on the list.

Lovers Lane free!



austinchronicle.com/loverslane

CREATE A PROFILE AND BROWSE MORE ADS ONLINE!

women SEEKING men

RU A REALBOY?
Looking for a real boy: an entertaining and easy going guy to explore Austin with me. Spontaneity, wit, and the ability to imitate Foghorn Leghorn are big pluses! **Nicki**, 42, 📷, **#128833**

:)
Shy, kinda quiet, sometimes moody & a little bit mean (or so I'm told) woman seeks nice, cheerful, outgoing, attractive man. **Nettie**, 42, 📷, **#128830**

I HATE HEADLINES
I am sweet, sexy, smart, funny and caring so hurry before I'm gone!:). **chloe**, 33, ☎, 📷, **#122021**

GENUINE CONNECTIONS
I believe in the power of genuine connections that help us become better people and live more peaceful and fulfilling lives. I'm looking for a man to share my journey. **orangepatchouli08**, 37, 📷, **#128822**

DARE-TO-BE GREAT SITUATION
Intelligent, sarcastic, passionate, single mom, liberal activist. No one can possibly do themselves justice in 30 words, so look me up online if you want to know more. **sundoll**, 27, 📷, **#128815**

DIVERSE, EASY-GOING, KIND
Looking for man who makes me laugh and won't give me the business cuz I don't spend my weekends scaling rocks. Outside is fun but I'm ready to just. hang. **Spike**, 43, 📷, **#123920**

LOVE TO COOK!
Loving, sexy, creative woman that is looking for a soul mate.I would love to find someone who loves affection,sexual, positive and a great listener. I enjoy cooking and being domestic. **Sanart**, 46, 📷, **#128793**

JACKASS SEEKS SAME.
I am a fan of "Smokey and the Bandit" and David Lee Roth. I am a native Austinite and am smart, quick-witted, understanding, outgoing, generous, and a horrible karaoke singer. **holyshit_44**, 33, 📷, **#128747**

THAT GIRL
I am for sure atypical in a variety of ways, fun interesting and curious! **lovelieatxgirl**, 33, 📷, **#128362**

BAWDY BOOKREADING BABE
Seeking simple, single, soulful, sinful, scintillating, spiritual, serene specimen for active simbiosis. Grab a dictionary and apply if you dare... **Bahira**, 44, ☎, 📷, **#128583**

MY THREE WORDS.
I'm Kay. I'm a hairdresser, pretty into music, and like to play too (guitar). Looking for someone who can just fuck off and still have a good time. **kaykaliah**, 20, 📷, **#127829**

GET AT ME...
I'm just a chill, laid back chick thats lookin for a nice guy to kick it with. Im a smart, independent girl with a strong will and a warm spirit. **Badfish**, 22, ☎, 📷, **#128564**

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!
austinchronicle.com/loverslane

CREATIVE, ECCENTRIC, DREAMGIRL
Although apprehensive, I hope to find someone to spend mutually beneficial time with. I am loyal and do not discriminate or judge. I promise to always be honest and true. **readyfreddy**, 23, 📷, **#128714**

CHECKING THIS OUT....
I am just seeing what is out there... I am the down-to-earth, girl next door type who is looking for an honest, hard working man who can make me laugh. **TexasKas**, 31, 📷, **#128652**

LIFE AMONG BIRDS
Looking for a hiking/adventure partner. I'm interested in many things, sometimes I can be busy and independent. I like to travel and I am fond of oceans and mountains. **JuniperTreehouse**, 35, 📷, **#128623**

SINCERE, ATTORNEY, CONTENT
Just hoping to find emotionally stable company of a good guy with similarities and common goals. low maintenance kind of girl with an eye towards staying fit and happy. **legalangel**, 54, 📷, **#125192**

HIPPIE-METAL MAMA
Live music, all kinds. The wilderness. Zombie flicks and dark humor. Other people in general. Dogs! Like all of these things. Give me a shout. **HerDudeness**, 26, 📷, **#128609**

men SEEKING women

THANKSGIVING IS PAST..
I won the Wishbone pull so I'm waiting for my wish to come true.....where are ya? **SnuggleKing**, 40, 📷, **#128726**

LONELY ADVENTURER
Hello, 30 words huh? Seeking fellow adventurers for fun. I don't live here yet but am here alot and could use some friends. Look online for a fuller profile. **Upontheroof**, 29, 📷, **#128794**

GOURMET CHEF
Looking for a friend, I cook for a living and live to cook, if you love to eat, I would love to cook for you. **Chef_CJ**, 49, 📷, **#128769**

MOTORCYCLE DANCING PARTNER
Hi ladies, not sure why I'm doing this . I like to have fun and looking for some ideas. Thanks for your time. **texrican**, 46, 📷, **#128814**

NEED SOME WTF?
I'm a sucker for odd humor, good food, good friends, and really crappy movies. A quiet night at Spider House quoting lolcats is more fun than barhopping. **particle_man**, 24, 📷, **#128813**

OUTGOING...READY TO ROLL!!!!!
Anything outdoors, hate silence- must have music. I like working out, cooking,movies, motorcycles, concerts,playing guitar. Just looking for someone with common interests. **chan27atx**, 34, 📷, **#128801**

OH H3Y
im a boy. im doing the graphic design thing at acc. i like bikes, taking pictures, graphic novels, adventures, laying in bed, watching movies i am allergic to cats :. **br3ntb0t**, 24, 📷, **#128798**

EXTRA EXTRA
Devote a lot time to music. Laid back guy, always ready to have fun. Quiet, but very assertive. Interesting conversation and sexy curiousity are things of beauty. **musicfarmer**, 24, 📷, **#128767**

DIVINITY-PURSUING LINGUIST SEARCHING
I am a yoga teacher/student/linguist, and I want a full, productive, interesting, peaceful life. I want to share my life with partner and child. Share my desires, dreams, and ideas! **shiva_caelius**, 37, 📷, **#128763**

HUSTLA PLAYBOY FREAK
Whats happening everybody dont know why I'm on this shit but fuck it I'm bored and lonely. I just moved out here a few weeks ago from Chicago. **chitownboy69**, 22, 📷, **#128759**

YEP, THAT'S ME.
I'm yet another one who's often told I look much younger. Does it seem that there is a much higher incidence of this in these profiles than in real life? **JetS165101**, 57, 📷, **#128751**

NATURES BOY
Someone who believes that everyone can make a difference it the world, all that is needed is more people who understand love and peace instead of fear and hate. **tlzyzz**, 42, 📷, **#119825**

FOLLOW YOUR HEART...
I am a soda can that just got shakin up and is ready to break free! I chose to follow my heart. Will you do the same? **one2believe**, 29, 📷, **#128727**

IS ANYONE THERE?
30 words is not a lot of time; there never seems to be enough time. if you want more, i can give you some of mine. that's it, i guess. **blueyed**, 25, 📷, **#128720**

>
Music, waterloo afternoons, strange indie flicks, making music of all kinds, finding new restaurants, coffee at random coffeehouses, getting lost at Austin Library. **wearethelawn**, 31, 📷, **#128713**

ARE YOU READY?
Looking for great new friends. Love to go out in this town & take in all it has to offer, live music, local arts, restaurants & watering holes. **wallyt**, 45, 📷, **#128712**

FUN, HONEST GUY
5'7, 150 lbs Athletic Musician (please dont hold that against me, we aren't all douche bags) Good Job Homeowner Travel extensivley Have a dog Honest, considerate and a gentleman. **landree6677**, 31, 📷, **#128708**

PHILOSOPHICAL HIPPY GEEK
I'm tall and I have my own place and transportation. I like nature adventures and being artistic. I am very positive and easy-going and like to be affectionate in relationships. **GeekyHippy**, 28, 📷, **#128699**

women SEEKING women

"SECRETS IN SAUCE"
When I look at her I cant remember anyone before her and cant imagine not being with her for the rest of my life. She feels the same way. **shewolfann**, 49, 📷, **#128103**

BROWN BUTCH SEEKS
Hello, my name is Chris. I'm 30 years old. I would like to find some cool people with whom I can break bread, exchange music and ideas, thoughts, vibes....saliva eventually. **chrisg2369**, 30, 📷, **#128732**

ADORABLE, DREADLOCKED, SEXINESS
i'm all about meeting new people and having fun.i like to dance, jog, bike rides, watch movies, travel, go to concerts,and check out new restaurants.let's hang out! **E137071**, 27, 📷, **#128500**

SMARTASSCHICK
Laid-back, 33 year-old professional,soft-butch (whatever the hell that means??!!). I would like to meet an attractive, chill woman who has a brain and can have a stimulating convo, good kisser. **cooshrockets**, 33, 📷, **#128395**

SWEET, LAIDBACK, FUN
Traditional good girl looking for friends and/or lovers. Love the outdoors and country life although I can party with the best. Very open minded and non-judgemental. No gossip or drama. **katieb**, 35, 📷, **#128206**

NEWGIRL: INTOWN 2LOVENBELOVED
I date girls of all races! I'm outgoing; little shy at first. Love live music and dancing. I just want a girl to make me laugh and give me butterflies. **SapphQt**, 26, 📷, **#128071**

'I'M SO BADASS!'
I'm a laid back goof with couch potato tendencies tho I love going out. Mexican food, coffee,and music have me grabbing my keys faster than you can say "mexican martini." **shygirl**, 26, 📷, **#127823**

KISS AND TELL.
I'm a down to earth girl who enjoys hanging out around Austin. I love cooking, watching movies, and playing with my dog. Did I mention that I'm a scorpio? **kristi123**, 21, 📷, **#127827**

JUST WANNA DATE
I'm told that I am fun and smart. I love to dance and sing kerokie (but obviously i cant spell worth a darn). **manturian**, 44, 📷, **#127729**

ALL ABOUT ROMANCE
Who I am: caring, sensitive, intuitive, intelligent, musical, spiritual What's important to me: time with friends and family, prayer, music, knowing myself and others, social justice, child advocacy, personal growth. **songbird68**, 40, 📷, **#121027**

men SEEKING men

LAID BACK GUY
Been single too long. Laid back guy here who loves meeting new people. Looking for that one special person to hang out with, get to know, and see what happens. **AustinRomance**, 31, 📷, **#128768**

NOT HIBERNATING YET
People accuse me of having a huge heart, 50s bearish male seeks younger bud that is honest, trustworthy and employed. Love all the safe stuff, kissing and making out. **ronintex**, 57, 📷, **#115402**

HONEST AND LOVING
i am honest and loving looking for the same,i will take care of you and will be ready for you as i am a bottom looking for top clean ddf. **chcito**, 63, 📷, **#128299**

AUSTIN BORN
I'm emotional & moody at times, passive, vers/btm and feminine mannered. I'm looking for white or hispanic men vers/tops. No Closet Cases!! Be Proud of who you are, I am. **jmnzptrck**, 41, 📷, **#127798**

HOPE DIES LAST
haha, i am many things, but ordinary is not one of them! Lets be random together !! And find new ways to be crazy ! **Blue**, 23, 📷, **#101322**

LOOK HERE, PLEASE!
Looking for friendship, dating. Interests include camping, biking, theater, movies, reading, canoeing, traveling. Politically progressive, romantic, passionate, humorous, and do community work Am 5'9, 163#, 62yo, trim gray beard, masculine. **AusAbogado**, 62, 📷, **#124933**

GUY IN BUDA
seeking nice and outgoing men for fun in and out of the bedroom. men who stay active or just quiet time at home, lets get busy or just relax. **rudyinbuda**, 42, 📷, **#126941**

YOUR SENSUAL SPARTAN
I'm a man with a passion for good looking women, high quality dining, and watching animals. I enjoy watching the 300, Rambo, and Conan. Could you be my Salma/Heidi Klum? **inuyasha86**, 22, ☎, 📷, **#125037**

Gotstogotobed

If you could have a dinner party and invite any 4 people, dead or alive, who'd be coming? I'm gonna go with both sets of my grandparents. Yeah, that doesn't tell you all that much about me, but I haven't gotten to know my grandparents like I should and life's short. And I like my grandparents. It would be a bummer to invite Gandhi or Jesus or whoever and find out he's kind of a dick.

read the rest of GOTSTOGOTOBED's profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at
austinchronicle.com/loverslane

austinchronicle.com/loverslane

BROWSE these ads and more online for **FREE.**

ENTER your own profile for **FREE.**

RESPOND by e-mail directly through our site with a membership.

This icon 📷 indicates that a photo is posted online.

This icon ☎ means there is a voice message you can listen to. With a membership, you can listen and respond to as many voice messages as your heart desires. There are no 900 #s or per minute fees. Regular long distance charges may apply.

VOICE RESPONSE: 520.547.4265

membership is simple:
LOVERS LANE

7 day pass	$10.00
30 day pass	$20.00
90 day pass	$40.00

Each pass gives you all-access, unlimited searching, browsing, e-mailing, calling, and responding.

ENTER TO WIN! Place a **FREE PROFILE** on Lovers Lane with your photo before 5pm, Monday, January 5, and you could win **$100 worth of GIFT CARDS** to **OPAL DIVINE'S**! **austinchronicle.com/loverslane**

Opal Divine's Austin Ranch · Penthouse · Penn Field · Maxilla

BES1971
GBM 6'0 175lbs black/brown. Told I have a nice smile. Like to cook/bake,sing,dance,travel, read,theater/movies,hiking/camping,swimming, bowling. Looking for W/H/M to start out as friends That may lead to LTR. Serious reply. **NIIU**, 37, 📷, **#124639**

JUST friends

THE APPLE EATER
just see me in action at work and you will see my true nature. i am a giver and a nurturer. i am realistic, proud, joyous, adventurous, outgoing.. **brookerhymeswith**, 24, 📷, **#128765**

CRAVING MORE TATTOOS!!
tattoos, odd, spooky, strange, taboo, dark, things fascinate me. Openminded & down to earth but don't like when things taken to the extreme-for instance, excessive body piercings. a workaholic, not very emotional, introverted, not shy but quiet, positively realistic, witty, playfully feisty, candid, & much more. **olivia825**, 27, 📷, **#128795**

READY 2 CHILL!!!
I'm looking for a person to hang out with and chill and nobody that is NOT looking for love just PURE FUN. No BS! **lizabe85**, 23, 📷, **#128731**

SOUTHAUSTINGUITARSLINGER
I am new to this kind of thing. I have one kid who I share custody with. If kids turn you off don't bother. Always do the next right thing! **austinguitarman**, 30, ☎, 📷, **#128682**

ROCK SHOWS ROLFBALL
I'm looking for friends to play rolfball with me, which is the best game ever, i'll teach you how. or someone to go to punk/rock shows with orfree alamo movies. **teejinator**, 25, 📷, **#128642**

KICKING AROUND
Looking for friends who have healthy and active lifestyles. Interests: biking, swimming, frisbee, TownLake, movies, dining out,cooking great vegetarian meals. Love laughing and am almost always in a great mood. **bec22**, 55, ☎, 📷, **#122698**

WHY GOD WHY
Just got a feeling that life might not matter without friends, anyone feeling wretched like me? Well lets be pals and play games or do sports or cause trouble together. **sludgebrain**, 29, 📷, **#128493**

LETS NAVELGAZE TOGETHER!
Quirky, cute, creative, intelligent and affectionate. I love food and music, coffee shop conversations and smelling the roses. Laid back gal looking for a companion to hang out with. U? **ScarlettPepper**, 31, 📷, **#128322**

messages

DEAR NIÑO DIOS: Save the children in the Hutto concentration camp, and forgive Archbishop José Gómez for he has forsaken us many times. --Paul Aviña.

JGR- MAY YOU know the peace and comfort this heartfelt thought imparts; the ones we love are never gone, for they live within our hearts.AAF

a Shot in the Dark

HOLLOW LEG?
You: 6 pitchers and multiple shots. Me: Impressed onlooker. Where did you put all that alcohol, in your hollow leg? Drink me under the table sometime? **When: Wednesday, December 24. Where: Jackalope. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903707**

BAGGAGE CLAIM5 SUNDAYNIGHT
You stood next to me waiting for your luggage and we shared a smile. I liked your Nikes but didn't have the nerve to tell you. Grab a beer sometime? **When: Sunday, December 28. Where: Airport Baggage Claim 5. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903706**

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES/ ABIA SUNDAY
Our eyes made contact while deplaning in Austin. Flight from Dallas Love to Austin (2:25PM). You: NYT crossword. Me: black and white pullover. I thought you were very cute. **When: Sunday, December 28. Where: ABIA/Southwest Flight. You: Man. Me: Man. #903705**

PEONY'S ON XMAS
You: beautiful blonde manly man picking up takeout order. Me: dark haired hispanic man with redhead friend coming in Christmas evening. We exchanged smiles twice. Wanna get takeout together sometime? **When: Thursday, December 25. Where: Peony's Restaurant. You: Man. Me: Man. #903704**

12/24 UNITED AIRLINES
So, I have to make this short. United Airlines Sf to Austin 12/24. You have long dark hair and earrings. We exchanged a smile. **When: Wednesday, December 24. Where: United Airlines SF to Austin. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903703**

VICTORIA'S SECRET, SOUTH
You: brunette at counter. Me: red shirt, asked you for the Pink perfume. Protested look you gave me by walking off without a word. Should've smiled and said "Merry Christmas". **When: Wednesday, December 24. Where: Barton Creek Mall. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903702**

WESTGATE AND 290
Christmas Eve at the gas pump. Me: bald in work clothes. You: pleasantly shaggy in jeans and a T-shirt. We talked about gas prices. I'd like to discuss much more. **When: Wednesday, December 24. Where: Shell Station (290 @Westgate). You: Man. Me: Man. ☎ #903701**

MANDOLA'S WITH FRIEND
You were with a lady friend at lunch. Due to whom I was dining with you must understand my hesitance to strike up much of a conversation. Another time? Rigoletto? **When: Monday, December 22. Where: Mandola's at lunch. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903700**

MANDOLA'S WITH FRIEND
Just could not figure out a way to engage you in true conversation given our respective dining companions. How about another shot? Rigoletto? **When: Monday, December 22. Where: Mandola's at lunch. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903698**

KID GENIUS SOCO
You rang me up, then teased me about coming back in. I have long brown hair, was waiting on friends. I've more courage now, thanks to the internet. Coffee sometime? **When: Saturday, December 20. Where: Kid Genius SoCo. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #903697**

4SUM @TARGET 12/21/08
Luckily when I saw you guys I was done shopping and just trying to kill time...because you 4 had me dazed and confused. I was done..... totally lost focus! RAWR! **When: Sunday, December 21. Where: Target Ben White. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #903696**

SUNBUSTERS T-SHIRT GUY
i remember you, me short dark hair, you said my smile made you melt.we saw each other at rudys, i was in uniform. lets have that coffee! **When: Friday, November 28. Where: rudys 183 and duvall. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903694**

BRIDGEPOINT EGG ADVICE
Parking elevator. You blond, blue sweater, tried to advise me on free-range eggs, but it happened too quickly to follow. Would love to properly meet and discuss the issue further. **When: Thursday, December 18. Where: Bridgepoint parking elevator. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #903693**

APOLOGY
Hanging out with Mike J. at Long Branch. Then without him. Woke up realizing I made you walk home in the cold, in short sleeves. I am beyond sorry. **When: Saturday, December 20. Where: Long Branch Inn. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903692**

BRENDA W/CASH TSHIRT
Brenda, met you at Travis' at Bannister Ln. You were wearing a Johnny Cash t-shirt. Had your dog w/you. If u ever see this, send me a message! **When: Monday, May 2, 2005. Where: Bannister Ln.. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903691**

1431 HEB
YOU: checking out groceries and ME?... ME: checking out movies and YOU! *wink* ...you know, vanilla and chocolate make a nice combination... some FOOD for thought? **When: Saturday, December 20. Where: 1431/Parmer HEB. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903690**

CATCH MY DOG!
thanks for helping me rescue my dog! maybe next time we can walk him together and not chase him. and maybe explore our neighborhood more... ps.. nice bike hair ! **When: Saturday, December 20. Where: behind mothers cafe. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903689**

YOU ARE DAVE
Dave, we talked and shared a digit at Central Mkt. You had to go to work. Gave you my email. Really want to talk some more. Second chance? 7 **When: Thursday, December 18. Where: Central Market N. Lamar. You: Man. Me: Man. #903688**

DUDE EMAIL ME
Hey Dave, we exchanged a number. You had to run to work. Gave you my email, but haven't heard from you. Up for whatever! Second chance? 7 **When: Thursday, December 18. Where: Central Market - Central Park. You: Man. Me: Man. ☎ #903687**

THE PARLOR
I saw you wearing a formal dress jacket and you had nice wavy dark black hair at the parlor. I wanted to talk to you but I was to shy. **When: Saturday, December 13. Where: The Parlor. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903686**

COFFEEBEANS AND BEANIES
Best barista at the Oltorf Starbucks who compliments my hat and goes in halfsies on a toffee almond bar. Since we work with coffee, maybe Ice Cream one day? **When: Thursday, December 18. Where: Starbucks on Oltorf. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903685**

STUMBLING BEAUTY
bender. you move and fall with untouchable grace and beauty. I love you lady. Sushi? **When: Tuesday, December 16. Where: bender. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903683**

SHOULD HAVE SAID...
I often noticed you instead of the game. This is me doing everything in life once. I would like for you to be next. It's worth a shot I think. **When: Friday, December 19. Where: Slick Willies Burnet Rd.. You: Man. Me: Man. #903684**

DON QUIXOTE RECOMMENDATION
Spoke too briefly with you and your slightly shorter friend outside 219 West. Would love to chat books with you! **When: Thursday, December 18. Where: Outside 219 West. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903681**

DAMON BONAPPETIT
Former student reconnects with favorite BonAppetit Veg Chef and wishes he would call. So call. Our future excursion will consist of: good smokes and good (veg) eats. How about it? **When: Thursday, December 11. Where: Creekside. You: Man. Me: Woman. #903680**

DINNER FOR 2
Where:HEB-Parmer & Mopac When:12-16-08 You were the cute blonde and I was the guy with the black jacket whom you recommended a skillet dinner to. How about dinner for two? **When: Tuesday, December 16. Where: HEB- Mopac & Parmer. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903679**

GINGER @ PARLOR
It's Michael. It was really nice talking with you. My caller I.D. failed so I don't have your #. I hate telephones. Call me! **When: Thursday, December 11. Where: The Parlor. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903678**

HELLO NURSE!
RN at Seton 38th 3Fl., with blonde hair (me too) - helped my friend during discharge at 2:30. You definitely brightened my day! Love to hear from you!! **When: Tuesday, December 16. Where: Seton. You: Woman. Me: Man. #903677**

ALSO ONLINE:
MORE **Shot in the Dark!**
Now with photos so you can see who saw you. Search by When, Where, and Keywords. **FREE!**

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsny for Jan. 2-8

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The Swiss are building a 35-mile railroad tunnel through the Alps. It'll take another nine years to finish carving out the path through the mountain and will ultimately require the removal of 24 million tons of rock. I suggest you regard this masterpiece, the Gotthard Base Tunnel, as an inspirational symbol. The coming months will be prime time for you to summon the willpower necessary to get really serious about an equally ambitious project.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I've got three quotes for you. I hope you'll write them out and keep them in a prominent place for the duration of 2009. They'll set the right tone for everything you do. The first is from psychologist Abraham Maslow: "A musician must make music, an artist must paint, a poet must write, if he is to be ultimately at peace with himself. What one can be, one must be." The second quote comes from choreographer Agnes DeMille: "Dance in the body you have." The third is from historian Gerald Sorin: "When Reb Zusye went to heaven, God didn't ask him why, in his life on earth, Zusye wasn't Moses, but why he wasn't even Zusye."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): What would it take for you to collaborate with the forces of change? Not in a resigned, resentful way. Not with a sense of defeat, wishing things could stay the same forever. Rather, what would you have to do in order to feel eager about adjusting to the ongoing shifts? Is there any way you might even learn to experience exhilaration and gratitude in the face of the eternal flux? Your assignment in 2009, Pisces, is to become an expert surfer of the beautiful, playful, blessed waves.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): It's a great privilege to live in a free country. You're fortunate if you have the opportunity to pursue your dreams without having to ward off government interference or corporate brainwashing or religious fanaticism. But that's only partly useful if you have not yet won the most important struggle for liberation, which is the freedom from your own unconscious habits and conditioned responses. Becoming an independent agent who's not an unwitting slave to his or her past is one of the most heroic feats a human being can accomplish. And you, Aries, will have more mojo to do that in 2009 than you've had in a long time.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): American financier Jim Rogers evaluates life as many devout capitalists do: Under what circumstances can he achieve the most wealth? That's why he relocated to Singapore. "If you were smart in 1807, you moved to London," he said two years ago. "If you were smart in 1907, you moved to New York City, and if you are smart in 2007, you move to Asia." With that as your spur, Taurus, I'd like you to identify the driving force of your life. The desire for more money? More power? Wisdom? Love? Status? None of the above? The next step is to meditate on the environment and the conditions that would be most conducive to you fulfilling your quest. In 2009, you'll have exceptional potential to create the ideal context for your success.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): When I was 19, I read Alan Watts' *The Book: On the Taboo Against Knowing Who You Are*. After that, I was sure there was nothing else I needed to know in order to live intelligently. It was, I thought, a compendium of the best insights worth knowing. My certainty eventually faded, thank goodness. In its place came the understanding that life's mystery just keeps getting deeper and vaster as one grows older – that it's idiotically arrogant to ever think you've got it all figured out. A healthier approach is to cultivate a capacity to be endlessly surprised. I hope you'll do that in 2009, Gemini. The flood of novel ideas and fresh perspectives surging your way will warrant it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "Dear Rob: These last few months have been absurdly full of pluses and minuses, ups and downs, lefts and rights. There have been so many good things happening and yet so many obstacles, too. It often feels like we crabs are being rewarded and punished at the same time. I'm wondering where it's all going and when it will end? A happy ending? A sad ending? No ending? Will zero ever equal one? – Agitatedly Neutral." Dear Agitated: You're at the climax of a long balancing process. I suggest you take this opportunity to tally up the valuable lessons you've learned in the relentless back-and-forth. Your graduation to a less ambiguous chapter of your life story will be more robust if you work hard to extract the meaning from experiences you've tended to see as random or confusing.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Here's an update on the world's tigers: Fewer than 5,000 are living in their natural habitats, while the U.S. alone has more than that number in zoos. Let's use that fact as a starting point for your meditations, Leo. How much of your animal essence is in captivity, and how much is running free? Is your inner lion able to wander at will through places where it feels at home, or is it trapped in a confined space it would never stay in if allowed to choose? Keep coming back to these questions during 2009. It will be an excellent time to spring the great cat in you from conditions that make it pace in neurotic circles.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In 2009, you'll receive a lot of help, some unexpected, whenever you phase out your trivial desires so that you can better pursue your truly important desires. The coming months will also be an excellent time to shed unrealistic fantasies so you can be more free to concentrate on the realistic kind. While these are not quite once-in-a-lifetime opportunities, Virgo, they may be the once-in-a-decade variety. Why not draw up a plan for how you can take maximum advantage of the specific luck that will be flowing your way?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "God calls you to the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet," wrote Frederick Buechner. You're free to ignore that call, of course. You can pretend that you don't really know what brings you deep gladness, and you can act as if the world's deep hunger is of no concern to you. But if you hope to be proud of the life you have lived when many years from now you shed your mortal coil, I advise you to at least experiment with using Buechner's formula as a working hypothesis. The coming year will be en excellent time to do just that.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Studies suggest that the average person who reaches old age has been upset with some family member or another for a total of 30 years. Is that a standard you'd like to match, Scorpio? If not, you will have an excellent chance to reduce any inclination you might have to hold grudges in 2009. The coming months will bring you ripe opportunities to dissolve tensions between you and your kin. You will also be more skilled than usual at navigating your way with grace and diplomacy through complications involving the home and domestic issues.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "Dear Rob: I have followed my nose most of my life, weaving from pleasurable diversion to interesting crisis and back. I've honestly had a great time and wouldn't change a thing. But lately, I've been getting strong hints from life that maybe the game is changing for me. More and more I'm feeling like the grasshopper in that old fable – you know, with no resources stored up and winter coming on fast – while all the steady, hardworking ants are sitting pretty. So here's my question: Do I really have to stop enjoying myself and get down to business, whatever that means? Are there any real jobs for grasshoppers? – Shaky Sagittarius." Dear Shaky: If there will ever in your life be a time when you could figure out how to be both a grasshopper and ant simultaneously, it will be in 2009. Start meditating on how to get the best of both worlds.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezsny's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

Back Page

454-5767 • austinchronicle.com

MOTORBLADE POST SERVICE
Fliers put up in 200 legal spots•$60 first wk•554-4034

WESTLAKE CLINIC
Dr. Robert Marion, OMD, L.Ac.
Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
30+ Years Experience
WestlakeClinic.com 327-6562

AFFORDABLE SOUND
Studio/Mastering, CD Duplication
www.affordablesound.com 459-5253

QUIT SMOKING EASILY!
No pills, No needles, No withdrawals, No lasers.
Hypnosis Works! 97% Success Rate.
www.AustinHypnoWellness.com 454-9999

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED PSYCHIC
in Austin, Jan, 2009. What will the new year bring. Make a firm resolution for health, wealth & happiness. $20 intro fee. Call Rani 650-520-0808 or rani@raninaik.com

MODELS $300-$500
Female figure models needed 18-50 (512) 257-0484

STD-DRUG-DNA TESTING
Confidential - No Doctor Order Needed! 459-2200
www.AnyLabTestNow.com/austin

RAPID SPANISH
The most fun you'll have learning Spanish. Guaranteed! All levels. http://www.RapidSpanish.com
512-263-9944.

STOP STUTTER NOW!
End Stuttering, Froggy, Basal, Nasal Voice
Guy Monroe (512) 554-8771 www.stopstutternow.com

100 CDR's $298!
With full color cardboard sleeves
EMA 512.388.1998

STICKERS FOR BANDS
THEBUMPERSTICKER.COM
Stick with us! 512-873-9626

FREE DANCE CLASSES
Fri, Jan 2nd 6:30pm-2Step*Swing*Salsa
AustinUptownDance.com 459-5678

HOT LOCAL DATELINE
BROWSE & RESPOND FREE!
(512) 457-1900 Straight
(512) 480-8400 Gay & Bi
Use FREE Code 7006, 18+

HOT TUB RENTALS BY THE HOUR
94 N IH 35, 512-762-0577
$60 - 30 min, $100 - Hour.

BOMBSHELL BEAUTY
326-2929
Waxing & Facials for Women Only
bombshellbeautyaustin.com

FEMALE MODELS CUTE, HAIRY AND/OR PREGNANT
Hiring amateur female models 18 & up only. 552-2154. Up to $300-500 per session. austinglamour.com

20% OFF ALL INVENTORY!
50% OFF CHRISTMAS STUFF!
Things Celtic, 1806 West 35th 472-2358

CHANGE YOUR WATER! CHANGE YOUR LIFE!
Benefits of drinking Alkaline Water.
www.thesuperwater.net Call Sandra 415-7669.

RELATIONSHIP/DATING WORKSHOP
Do you really want a relationship? Are you tired of not attracting the "right" one? This workshop is a hard hitting high confront look at what it takes to find and keep the relationship you always wanted. More info at http://www.ask-lois.com/classes.htm or call 445-0627

BE A KNOCK OUT!!!
Kickboxing, MMA, JKD, Kali & Kids
www.Kickboxing-Austin.com - 821-3637

SPEAK SPANISH NOW!
Small Groups, Affordable, Native Instructors
453-8680 http://www.creativelanguagecenter.com

VINYL/CD-BUY/SELL/TRADE
ANTONE'S RECORD SHOP
2928 GUADALUPE (512) 322-0660

STOP SMOKING!
Weight Loss By Laser
Pro-Laser 512-301-2755

PHARA'S
FINE MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE & ENTERTAINMENT
Reserve Now for New Year's Eve! $50 Includes Full Dinner & Dessert, Live Music, Belly Dancing! Hookah Lounge & More! 111 E. North Loop BYOB! 632-7067

TATTOO REMOVAL
www.AustinLaserClinic.com
(512) 447-7546 * Open Monday - Saturday

MASSAGE TABLE SALE!
MORNING STAR TRADING COMPANY
1919 S. First 476-1727 www.morningstarcompany.com

MARY'S HAIR STUDIO
20% OFF ANY SERVICE w/this ad!!!
1508 Lavaca 477-7068, Aveda Salon, Since 1983

•GOTH • PUNK • T-SHIRTS
Clothing, Stickers, Patches, Pins, Jewelry, Corsets
1905 S. 1st -www.secretoktober.com - 512-462-9217

OPEN NEW YEARS DAY!
9AM-MIDNIGHT • QUACK'S BAKERY
411 E. 43rd Street, Hyde Park 453-3399

FEARLESSSPEAKING.NET
Public Speaking, Singing, Shyness, Stage Fright & Perfectionism. Guy Monroe 554-8771

ROLFING ®
Walk, Run, Bike, Swim with Improved Movement.
20yrs. Exp. Allison Hubbard, Certified Rolfer 441-4001

SEMEN DONORS NEEDED
$150 per specimen. Healthy college educated males, 18-39 years old. For an application visit http://www.123donate.com

HIRING MALE MODELS
Ages 18-28 videos/photos
$200-$500 512-696-0765

FUN AUDIO RECORDING & MIXING CLASSES
Alta Vista Recording • 512-326-5490
altavistarecording.com

AFFORDABLE SOUTH AUSTIN CONDO for LEASE
as low as $750/month
3204 Manchaca Rd, 78704
theIvyAustin.com/lease • 512-731-0904

BIG ROOM BIG SOUND
10 years in Austin
jacketweather.com 512-731-6094

FREE LOCATING
austinreallist.com
512-669-8269

OUTBOUND SALES AGENTS NEEDED
We are looking for great outbound sales agents for B to B, so if you want to work with a "fun, energetic, tropical shirt/shorts kind of company" this is the place! Send your resume to hr@satcountry.com

DIRECT CARE STAFF NEEDED
$400 sign on bonus after 6 months!
Flexible Hours!
Call Dana at 1-800-867-0047 or email dmcbride@empowermentoptions.com

ENVIRONMENTALL FRIENDLY LAWN SERVICE
Call Today! 512-693-0388

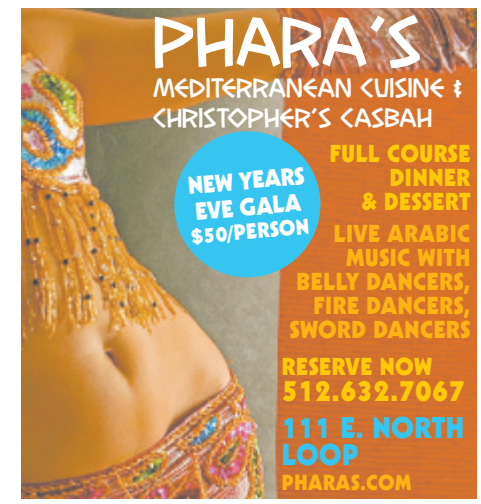
ARE YOU GOOD WITH PEOPLE?
MONEY MOTIVATED? SELF MOTIVATED?
If So, We Want YOU!
Silverleaf Resorts are hiring FT/PT employees for the Austin area. Call Michelle at 512-740-6689 to set up an interview!

GOT JUNK?
Low Price Junk Removal • Most Anything Hauled!
Brandon 696-7786

FREDDY'S FROZEN CUSTARD
NOW HIRING!
Call for more info! 210-289-0701 or email gary.nail@yahoo.com







ONLY $19.95 Print & Online Job Listings
For a limited time, get a custom line ad in 'The Austin Chronicle' Jobs section for only $19.95. A $54 value! Dial 454-5767 now!
*12 line maximum per week



THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE Classifieds
MORE than a list